



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

LL.M. ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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September 2007

Message from Associate Dean Wendy Perdue

The semester is underway and once again we have an extraordinary class of LL.M. students. This year's class is composed of 190 students who earned a J.D. degree in the United States, and 201 who received their law degree outside the United States. Students come from 63 countries on six continents and are fluent in a total of 54 languages.



Our students bring a wealth of experience. The majority of students have begun their legal careers and have an average of 5 years of post-law school work. In addition to lawyers from private practice, the class includes two judges, several diplomats, officials from various government ministries around the world, and representatives from important international organizations. Many US government agencies are represented as well, including the IRS, EEOC, FEMA, and the Departments of Agriculture, Justice, Treasury, Energy, Homeland Security, and Labor. We also have four members of the Judge Advocates General Corps from the Army and Navy. Our students bring a broad range of interests outside of law. They enjoy the arts -- many play instruments (piano, clarinet, guitar, violin, flute and cello, to name some), or draw, paint, or do photography -- and are active in sports with tennis and soccer being the most popular.

Each year when students graduate, they tell us how much they have enjoyed getting to know their fellow classmates. We hope as alumni, you will have an opportunity to meet some of these terrific lawyers. We think you will be as impressed as we have been.

Alumni Reunion for Classes with graduation years ending '2 and '7 on

October 19 - 21, 2007 in Washington, D.C.

Each year, the Office of Law Alumni Affairs hosts an Alumni Weekend during the third weekend in October. All are welcome, although special classes are honored on a rotating basis at five-year intervals. For October 2007, the focus will be on those classes whose graduation year ends in a '2 or a '7. There are usually special events on Friday, culminating in the Dean's Welcome and Reception in the evening, followed by panel discussions on Saturday, and a Gala Dinner event on Saturday evening. For more information go to: www.law.georgetown.edu/alumni/events/2007/reunion/index.html

Leading the Way on Legal English

Professional fluency in written and spoken English is increasingly important for lawyers around the world. Indeed, the goal of enhancing English language skills is a major goal for many LL.M. students -- even those with very high skill levels. However, as lawyers who are native speakers of English will confirm, learning to write for a legal audience and to communicate with subtlety

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requires more than immersion in the language; it requires sophisticated instruction targeted to the needs of lawyers.

Responding to this need, Georgetown is now offering a range of credit and non-credit courses and workshops covering areas such as writing for law firm practice, writing for tax lawyers, academic writing, and presentation skills for lawyers. Sophisticated programs in legal English require sophisticated faculty who are experts in both law and language. Georgetown is fortunate to have three such experts all of whom have advanced degrees in both law and linguistics: Professor Craig Hoffman, J.D., Ph.D.(Linguistics), who has taught legal writing at Georgetown Law for over 13 years; Peter Cramer, LL.M., Ph.D. (Language Education), and Natalia Walter, J.D., M.A. (Linguistics). No other legal English program in the world offers a comparable program or team.

International Law Alumni Reunion in Paris May 4-5, 2007

The Law Center hosted an International Alumni Reunion in Paris on May 4 - 5th, 2007. Over 100 international alumni attended the various events which included both social and professional



Pictured above are Oleg Riabokon (Ukraine), Pascal Cardonnel (France), and Alan Yanovich (Colombia)

events. There were panel discussions on: Securities Regulation in the U.S. and the European Union (including Professor Donald

Langevoort and LL.M. alumnus, Gilles August); Product Safety and Product Liability (including Professor Franz Werro and LL.M. alumnus, Jean-Philippe Montfort); Law Practice in Europe (including LL.M. alumnus, Ludwig Leyendecker), and International Commercial Arbitration (including LL.M. alumni, Loretta Malintoppi, Daniel Girsberger and Franz Stirnimann). Alumni who were members of the New York Bar Association were able to receive "CLE" credit for their attendance at the panels. In addition to the many European countries represented, we also had alumni from Mexico, Dominican Republic, Colombia, Lebanon, & the United States.

John Carroll Awards Weekend and International Law Alumni Reunion

Mark Your Calendars! The John Carroll Weekend / International Law Alumni Reunion is scheduled for March 5-9, 2008 in Madrid, Spain.



New Graduate Law Degree for Journalists

Print and broadcast media is full of stories on legal topics. Unfortunately, the journalists whose job it is to explain complex legal issues generally have no legal training themselves. To remedy this situation, Georgetown Law has established a new graduate degree – a Masters of Studies in Law (M.S.L.). The goal of this program is to provide

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journalists who report on legal affairs with the opportunity to enhance their reporting skills by acquiring a strong legal background.

This degree program is open to working journalists – broadly defined to include professionals reporting in print, television, radio, and Internet media – who do not have a J.D. degree and have at least two years’ experience in the media. Students may enroll in this program on a full-time or a part-time basis with full-time students expected to complete the degree in one academic year. This year’s inaugural class of five journalists has experience in both print and broadcast media and has covered stories ranging local crime to business news to children’s rights.

O’Neill Institute

In April 2007, Georgetown announced the establishment of the Linda and Timothy O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law. The Institute which was made possible by a \$10 million donation from the O’Neills is an ambitious interdisciplinary undertaking that will bring together preeminent scholars and practitioners in health law and policy. To mark the launch, the Law Center held a major conference that featured an inaugural lecture by Professor Lawrence Gostin who was officially installed in a new professorship, and a keynote address by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dr. Julie Gerberding. Georgetown Law, in conjunction with the Georgetown School of Nursing & Health Studies, launched the Linda and Timothy O’Neill Institute for Global and National Health.

The Institute will undertake a range of research, education, and training projects in fields such as global health law, health care financing and organization, and health regulation and governance. Students in the Global Health Law

LL.M. program will have the opportunity to be involved in O’Neill Institute projects and to participate in O’Neill conferences and symposia.

Share Your News!

Ms. Begüm Durukan Özeydin, class of 1998, has been made partner in the firm, Birsell Law Offices in Istanbul. Her practice focuses mainly on mergers & acquisitions and banking & finance. She has experience representing and advising foreign banks, financial institutions and real estate companies in their investments in Turkey.

Bruno Mastretta, a 2004 Securities & Financial Regulation alumnus, wrote that he has moved from his position as Chief of the Transparency Office at Mexico’s central bank, Banco de México (BANXICO). Bruno is now Direct Advisor to the CEO of Petroleos Mexicanos (PEMEX), one of the largest largest oil companies in the world.

Dr. Dmitry Pentsov, a 1995 Common Law Studies LL.M. alumnus, had his second book published in July. The book, *Maritime Work Law Fundamentals: Responsible Shipowners, Reliable Seafarers*, was co-authored with Dr. Iliana Christodoulou-Varotsi. Dmitry is an associate in the Geneva offices of Froriep Renggli, a leading Swiss law firm.

Colonel Jody Prescott, who received his LL.M. in International and Comparative Law in 1990, writes: “Thanks for sending the link to the new alumni newsletter. I am stationed in Norway now, at the Joint Warfare Centre (JWC) in Stavanger. The JWC is primarily responsible for training NATO commanders and staffs for real and contingency missions, like for ISAF (International Security Assistance Force). As a staff legal advisor, I assist on exercises by briefing training audiences on legal issues, and then observing how they deal with specific legal problems during their

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exercises. When we are not busy with exercises, my boss and I deal with real world legal issues, like status of forces problems, contracts and personnel issues. Norway is a beautiful country, and my family really enjoys living here.”

Dr. Jose Antonio Rivas Campo (LL.M. 2000, S.J.D. 2005) has published a part of his S.J.D. thesis: “Do Rules of Origin in Free Trade Agreement Comply with Article XXIV GATT?” as a chapter in a book, *Regional Trade Agreements and the WTO Legal System*, which was edited by Lorand Bartels and Federico Ortino (LL.M., 1997).

Alan Sherman is a 1976 Tax LL.M. alumnus practicing in Dallas, primarily in the field of Texas state and local tax law. He also publishes a blog covering developments in his practice area, *the Texas State & Local Tax Law Blog*, which can be found at www.txsaltlaw.com. He would like fellow Tax LL.M. alumni to visit the blog and let him know what they think of it!

Professor Grant B. Stillman, LL.M.'85, has published a legal resource book: *NGO Law and Governance*, which is also online at www.adbi.org/book/2007/01/04/2086.ngo.law/.

Dr. Stillman is an Adjunct Professor of International Law at Temple University's Japan Program and is currently on a sabbatical with the Institut Universitaire de Hautes Etudes Internationales in Geneva, where he is researching accountability of international organizations. He has been the Legal Adviser to the Asian Development Bank's think tank in Tokyo since its establishment in 1997.

Philippe Thomas, LL.M. 1990, has been promoted to Local Managing Partner for the Paris office of Lovells. Philippe also has responsibility within the Paris office for the employment practice. Philippe is a regular speaker at the International Bar Association as well as other international

conferences. He has written numerous articles for both general and specialized press.

Faculty Scholarship

The Georgetown Law Library has search engine to allow you to check which faculty have books or articles in the works:

<http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/faculty/publications.cfm>.

Have You Moved or Changed Your Address?

Please help us to keep our information current. If you have moved or changed your address, please update your alumni records by going to:

<http://www.law.georgetown.edu/forms/form.cfm?FormID=11>.

Keep in Touch!

We would love to hear what you're doing these days. Please send your news to:

gradprog@law.georgetown.edu.

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