



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

GRADUATE PROGRAMS NEWSLETTER

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December 2008

Message from Associate Dean Wendy Perdue

On Monday, August 25, Georgetown Law welcomed the Fall 2008 entering class of graduate students.



This year's graduate students come to Georgetown from 62 countries and 237 law schools around the world. We have 188 students who received their first degree in law outside the United States, and 207 students who earned their J.D. degree in the U.S. They bring with them a wide variety of educational and practice experiences, and range in age from 21 to 57.

Among our international students, we have 9 Fulbright Scholars, as well as an OSI-Palestinian Rule of Law scholar from Palestine and a Muskie Fellow from Ukraine. Several students are sponsored by their home governments, including the governments of Japan, Thailand, Korea, and Kazakhstan. Our students include diplomatic officials from the Embassies of Iceland and Korea, several prosecutors, and a member of the Nigerian Intellectual Property Commission. We also have lawyers with experience working in international organizations, including the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Development Bank, the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the WTO, and the Inter-American Institute of Cooperation on Agriculture.

As for the U.S.-educated students, in addition to numerous attorneys with private firm experience, we also have 11 JAG officers (from the Army, Air Force and Navy), as well as an individual who served as a Marine Corps Special Assistant to the Counsel for the Commandant at the Pentagon. Federal government agencies are well-represented, including the Departments of Justice, Treasury, State, and Homeland Security; we also have students coming from the IRS, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, the FTC and the SEC. One student helped to develop a plan for the airline industry's response to pandemics. Also joining us are several individuals who have worked in a legal capacity at the state or local government level.

In short, this is yet another class with extraordinary diversity of experiences and interests, and we look forward to an exciting year.

New Graduate Degree in Business Law

This Fall, Georgetown launched a new graduate degree in International Business and Economic Law (IBEL). This program is designed for students with a business and commercial law focus, who wish to select courses from a broader curriculum than is provided by the LL.M. degree in Securities & Financial Regulation. Our expectation that this degree would be attractive to foreign students proved correct: for Fall 2008, we admitted 21 foreign students for this program and 16 are attending. The IBEL curriculum comprises several course "clusters," including trade law, commercial law, corporate law, international regulation, and

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dispute resolution. Students pursuing this degree have great flexibility in designing their curriculum, combining courses from different clusters or concentrating in a single area. We expect that this new degree will become even more popular as it becomes better known.

Publications by Students & Recent Graduates

So far this year, three young Georgetown scholars have published articles of note. *Sean Stegmaier*, a 2007 graduate of the Tax LL.M. program, has published "Tax Incentives for Higher Education in the Internal Revenue Code: Education Tax Expenditure Reform and the Inclusion of Refundable Tax Credits," 37 *Southwestern University Law Review* 135 (2008). *Jordan Taylor*, a 2008 graduate of the Tax LL.M. program, was awarded first prize in the Student Writing Competition of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC) for his paper, "What's the BIG Deal? Why Taxpayers, the Courts and the IRS Cannot Agree about a Discount for Built-In Gains." It will be published in the winter issue of the *ACTEC Journal*. Sean and Jordan wrote their papers under the supervision of Albert Lauber, the Director of the Graduate Tax Program. *Ari J. Brandes*, a current student in the Taxation joint degree program, has just published "A Better Way to Understand Credit Default Swaps" in the July 21, 2008 edition of *Tax Notes*. The paper is scheduled to be published subsequently in the *Stanford Journal of Law, Finance & Business*. Ari wrote this paper under the supervision of Adjunct Professor Robert Rudnick. We are eager to learn of other publications by our alumni and we hope that you will bring your books, articles, and white papers to our attention.

Charles Fahy Distinguished Adjunct Professor Award

On November 13, 2008, Professors Warren Dean and Allan Mendelsohn were jointly honored with the Charles Fahy Distinguished Adjunct Professor Award for the 2007-2008 academic year, presented by Associate Dean of Graduate Programs, Wendy C. Perdue. Professors Dean and Mendelsohn, who have been teaching at Georgetown Law since 1989 and 1983

respectively, co-teach *Cross-Border Commercial Regulation: Aviation and Maritime Law*. They were



selected for their consistent dedication to teaching and for going above and beyond to support the scholarship of Georgetown students. In addition to bringing their tremendous energy, expertise and knowledge to the classroom, both professors have committed themselves to assisting students in getting articles published in various journals. To date they have assisted more than 30 Georgetown Law students in successfully publishing articles in the *Journal of Maritime Law and Commerce*, the *Journal of Air Law and Commerce*, and the *International Lawyer*.

Professor Allan Mendelsohn has served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Affairs and also as Attorney-Adviser in the Legal Adviser's Office of the U.S. Department of State. He received his Diploma from the Sorbonne, an LL.B. from the University of Illinois and his LL.M. from Harvard. He is currently of Counsel at Sher & Blackwell. Professor Warren Dean was formerly Assistant General Counsel for International Law at the U.S. Department of Transportation. He received his B.A. and J.D. from the University of Maryland, and his LL.M. in Taxation from Georgetown Law. Professor

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Dean is a Partner with Thompson Coburn LLP and specializes in international transportation and aviation law.

The Two-Year LL.M. Program at Georgetown Law

In reviewing applications of foreign lawyers, we have frequently had to turn down highly qualified applicants simply because their English was not at a level that would allow them to be successful. This year we launched an innovative new 2-year LL.M. program that is specifically targeted to outstanding foreign lawyers who need additional work on their English skills.

During the first year of the program, students take a combination of substantive law classes and intensive English. The substantive courses introduce students to the U.S. legal system and legal culture. The English classes focus on core language skills, along with memo writing, scholarly writing, and public presentation skills. By the second year, students' English skills are sufficient that they can freely select from among all of the regular LL.M. courses and complete their degree. To assist in teaching these students as well as our one-year LL.M. students, Georgetown's staff includes two faculty with PhD.s in linguistics, one of whom also has a J.D.

This year's inaugural class of the 2-year program has eight students from six countries.

For questions about the program, please contact: cgle@law.georgetown.edu.

Adjunct Faculty Member Wins First Prize

Adjunct Professor Rumu Sarkar won first prize in a writing competition hosted by the Foundation de St Cyr, a foundation affiliated with France's premiere military academy St Cyr, located in Paris. An awards ceremony was scheduled for late May. Professor Sakar currently serves as Senior Legal

Advisor to CALIBRE, a defense consulting group based in Alexandria, V.A. and teaches an LL.M. seminar at Georgetown Law in International Development Law.

Share Your News!

Randell J. Gartin, class of 2005, has been named as a new Tax associate at the Dallas office of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP. Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP is one of the world's leading law firms. While at Georgetown, Mr. Gartin was a Graduate Tax Scholar and received the Thomas Bradbury Chetwood, S.J. Prize for the most distinguished academic performance in his graduating class.

Steven D. Irwin was among those honored as the Top 50 lawyers of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania Super Lawyers 2008. Mr. Irwin chairs the employment and government relations practice groups at Leech Tishman Fuscaldolo & Lampl, LLC. He joined as a partner in 2001. Irwin focuses his practice on civil litigation, with an emphasis on employment, securities, construction and contract matters, unfair competition, trademark disputes, government investigations and other business issues.

L. Stephan Vincze, '88, was named one of the 100 Most Inspiring Executives in the Life Science industry by The Pharma Voice Magazine in the July/August 2007 issue. In addition, Mr. Vincze was cited and quoted in a joint press release from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business, from where Mr. Vincze received his MBA, and the Ethics and Compliance Officer Association (ECO) in September 2007. The press release announced an agreement between the ECO and the University of Chicago to conduct ground-breaking research on the economic effects of corporate compliance, ethics, and governance programs on firm valuation. Mr. Vincze brokered the agreement and conceived of the project as a student at the business school. Mr. Vincze serves as the VP, Ethics and Compliance Officer of TAP

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Pharmaceutical Products Inc. in the north Chicago area, where he was recruited in 2001 to address a landmark settlement with the Department of Justice for \$885 million.. He is the former President and CEO of Vincze & Frazer, LLC, a healthcare compliance consulting firm, and a former counsel to the House Government Reform Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. Mr. Vincze is also a recipient of the Defense Meritorious Service Medal for his service as an active duty Marine Corps Officer in the Office of the Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon.

Roger D. Winston, class of 1983, has been recognized as “Leaders in Their Field” in the 2008 edition of *Chambers USA, America’s Leading Lawyers for Business*. Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP is pleased to announce that six Maryland attorneys in its Real Estate Department. Roger D. Winston, managing partner of the firm’s Bethesda office, was amongst those named “Leaders in Their Field” in real estate law.

Rafael X. Zahralddin-Aravena, who received his LL.M. in International and Comparative Law in 1995, was recently named the managing shareholder of Elliott Greenleaf in Wilmington, Delaware. The Delaware office opened on December 1, 2007 and represents multinational corporations and small and medium sized businesses. He is a business lawyer who concentrates his practice in the areas of commercial litigation, bankruptcy and creditors’ rights, entity formation, and international and comparative law. He has been recently appointed as Deputy Regional President of Region IV of the Hispanic National Bar Association and elected President of the Delaware Hispanic Bar Association by its Board. He was also recently elected as a board member of Read Aloud Delaware, a non-profit dedicated to pre-kindergarten literacy efforts in Delaware.

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.