



Center for International Legal Education

From the Director

By Ronald Brand



Professor Ronald A. Brand, J. Kate Drabecki (J.D. '08) (far left), and Katerina Ossenova (J.D. '08) (second from right) with the 2008 University of Bahrain Vis Moot Team.

It has been another great year to work with students, staff, and faculty on international and comparative law projects at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law Center for International Legal Education (CILE). The stories in this issue of *CILE Notes* present a brief summary of that year. They begin with Kate Drabecki (J.D. '08) and Katerina Ossenova (J.D. '08) explaining the opportunities and experiences they had while at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. Those interested in just why someone interested in international and comparative law should come to Pitt should consider their story. Kate and Kat's article is followed by a recap of events of the past year. We then provide a set of perspectives highlighting the work of our law school in the Balkan region. These

are the stories of J.D. and LL.M. students and alumni. The impact they have allowed us to have in Serbia, Kosovo, Albania, and other countries in that region is enormous. Finally, we provide news of students, faculty, and alumni—members of the CILE family that make my job so exciting and enjoyable.

All of these stories are best told in the first person, and we have tried to do that as much as possible in this newsletter. Please take some time to read the stories of the talented, dedicated, and engaging people with whom Wes Rist, Gina Clark, and I get to work with at the Center for International Legal Education. These people make our lives rich and rewarding. They also are changing the lives of many others as they pursue their legal careers in ways we

think will change the world. We invite you to find ways to join us in being a part of that change.

In the coming year, the reach of CILE will continue to grow. We begin in September by providing training sessions to the lawyers at the U.S. Steel Košice facilities in Slovakia. In October we travel to Oman to work with the law faculty at Sultan Qaboos University to develop their international commercial law and arbitration curriculum. Our students have plans to

cover the globe with their activities as well, and we expect completion of Volume 5 of the *CILE Studies* series.

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Building Friendships and International Careers: Three Years at Pitt Law

by J. Kate Drabecki (J.D. '08) and Katerina Ossenova (J.D. '08)

Kosovo. Bahrain. Austria. Belgium. These are just some of the countries we visited and worked in during what turned out to be a not so typical law school experience. With the assistance and guidance of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law Center for International Legal Education (CILE), we not only immersed ourselves in an international curriculum, but we were also fortunate enough to travel around the world for hands-on practical experience that left us with memories and friendships to last a lifetime.

We both came to the University of Pittsburgh with a strong interest in international law and policy and immediately found ourselves seeking help from CILE. As our first year wound down, with CILE's assistance, we anxiously prepared to travel to Pristina, Kosovo, to work with the Legal Policy Division of the United Nations Department of Justice. During our three months there, we processed requests for international legal assistance to and from foreign jurisdictions, including requests from the Belgrade war crimes council and the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, as well as extradition requests, transfers

of sentenced persons, international child abduction applications, witness protection and relocation requests, and issuances of international wanted notices. Working with local Kosovar lawyers, we provided legal and policy advice to the director of the Department of Justice, and drafted interoffice and action memoranda for the special representative of the United Nations secretary general in Kosovo. While we learned a great deal by working on these complicated and politically charged criminal cases and by drafting new legislation, we learned just as much through the friendships we developed with the local staff. Their

willingness and desire to tell us about their personal experiences during the war or to show us Kosovo's beautiful towns and national treasures added so much depth and understanding to the situation in Kosovo. We left Kosovo after a summer of challenging yet fascinating work with strong friendships that continue to this day, as well as with our own enhanced friendship, which would grow stronger as our worldly adventures continued.

During our second year, while pursuing our Certificate in International and Comparative Law requirements, we both decided to audition for the Willem C. Vis



Kate Drabecki (J.D. '08) and Katerina Ossenova (J.D. '08) in Kosovo during their summer 2006 internships.

International Commercial Arbitration Moot—and made it onto the four-member team! What followed were eight months of grueling work from long hours spent researching and writing memoranda to endless oral argument practices. What resulted, however, was not only a strong finish for the University of Pittsburgh team at the moot competition in Vienna, Austria, but the single most educational and practical experience we could have hoped for in law school. The Vis moot experience allowed us to pursue in-depth research into international commercial law and arbitration, practice becoming

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Building Friendships and International Careers: Three Years at Pitt *continued*

effective litigators, and fine-tune our analytical, writing, and communication skills. The long hours in the library and weekends spent poring over the New York Convention and the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG) were well worth it when we arrived in Vienna and took part in one of the most unique and invaluable experiences an international law student could want. With 203 teams from 52 countries participating in the Vis moot in 2007, the 10-day event allowed us to interact with students from all over the world and learn about different legal cultures and foreign law school experiences.

We did manage to separate ourselves during the summer after our second year. Kate received one of three inaugural Nordenberg Fellowships for internships in Europe. She spent two months at the Institute for European Studies in Brussels, Belgium, where she conducted research on European and international migration, as well as on global trade law for senior researchers. She was able to sharpen her legal research and writing skills and had the advantage of direct access to the institutions of the European Union and knowledgeable coworkers.

Things only got better our third year. Fresh from celebrating the Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships we were both awarded—Kate for Polish, Katerina for Bosnian, Serbo-Croatian—we found out that Professor Ronald Brand had a whole new adventure planned for us. The Commercial Law Development Program at the U.S. Department of Commerce sought to establish an international commercial arbitration program at the University of Bahrain and solicited the expert assistance of Professor Brand and CILE. In October 2007, we accompanied Professor Brand to Bahrain to introduce the Vis moot to the University of Bahrain's law students and help recruit, train, and coach a team from Bahrain to participate in

the Vis moot. Having recently finished our participation in the Vis moot as students and competitors, we had to quickly adjust to being coaches and teachers for the Bahrain team members. During our initial 10-day stay in Bahrain, we introduced the Bahrain team to the CISG, model arbitration laws, and institutional arbitration frameworks and provided them with an introduction to writing the required memoranda for the Vis moot. Upon returning to Pittsburgh, we remained in almost daily e-mail communication in an effort to assist the Bahrain team in writing its memoranda.

“We leave our law school education with priceless memories, invaluable skills, and, perhaps most importantly, an enduring friendship.”

In February 2008, we once again accompanied Professor Brand to Bahrain, where we spent 10 days intensively preparing the Bahrain team for the oral argument component of the Vis moot, or as it came to be called, “oral argument boot camp.” Toward the end of this stay in Bahrain, we were fortunate enough also to participate in a roundtable discussion with law school deans from Qatar, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain, who met to discuss the importance of participating in international moot competitions, planned for the organization of an association of Gulf Cooperation Council law schools, and discussed the educational value of forming a regional moot competition. While sitting at a table with the deans discussing the importance of increased cooperation among law schools worldwide, and while interacting

with the four-member Bahrain team, we once again could not believe how fortunate we were to take part in such a groundbreaking venture.

With our last term drawing to a close, we attended the Vis moot in March 2008, this time as team Bahrain's coaches. The Bahrain team participated in a two-day premoot with a consortium of seven teams brought together by CILE, consisting of teams from Kosovo, Serbia, Pittsburgh, Ukraine, and this year, Bahrain. We watched proudly as the Bahrain team participated in the General

Rounds of the Vis moot and argued against the University of Chicago, the University of Geneva, Ateneo de Manila University, and Florida Coastal School of Law. With no previous exposure to commercial law and arbitration, or to writing memoranda and engaging in oral arguments, the Bahrain team performed marvelously and surpassed all of our expectations. For us, being able to take what we had learned and use it to teach others, all while immersed in a new and fascinating culture, once again proved to be an invaluable and priceless challenge.

After countless flights, some lost luggage, and endless hours studying and writing, what we take away from our three years at the University of Pittsburgh is an international legal education that surpasses anything we could have hoped for. We learned by actually practicing and teaching law in an international environment, benefited from the wonderful language and interdisciplinary cooperation provided by Pitt's University Center for International Studies, and gained an appreciation of the multitude of legal frameworks and cultures that is essential for an international lawyer. Through these experiences and others, like our “side trips” to Bulgaria and Dubai, we not only learned but laughed and cried together. We leave our law school education with priceless memories, invaluable skills, and, perhaps most importantly, an enduring friendship.



Inside the European Commission's Legal Service

by Caitlin Price (J.D. '09)

One of the clinching factors in my decision to come to law school was that it would give me the chance to work or study abroad. My interest in European studies had grown out of a bachelor's degree in French and training in Italian and Spanish. I have been lucky enough to expand this base in law school through course work in international and European Union law, as well as two years as a foreign language area studies fellow in Arabic in cooperation with the University of Pittsburgh European Union Center of Excellence, European Studies Center. Despite my good fortune in finding such dedicated, enthusiastic faculty and staff at Pitt to encourage and inspire my curricular goals, I could not have dared to hope for an opportunity such as the one created through the hard work of Chancellor Mark Nordenberg, Professor Ronald Brand and the Center for International Legal Education, Professor Alberta Sbragia, the European Union Center of Excellence, European Studies Center, and many others. Through their help and the generous funding of the Nordenberg Fellowship, I spent three months this summer as an intern in the Legal Service of the European Commission.

Upon my wide-eyed arrival at the Legal Service, I found my place with the business team in the commission's headquarters in Brussels' Berlaymont building. Situated directly across the street from the Council of Europe in the heart of the European quarter, Berlaymont is arguably the most recognizable of all European Union buildings. For me, this meant elevators shared with the continent's most respected diplomats, as well as a very quick introduction to the European tradition of protests. From striking fishermen to holistic medicine enthusiasts, I became acquainted with alternate routes out of the building as flares and smoke bombs flooded the Rue de la Loi.

The Legal Service operates as a kind of in-house counsel for the commission, representing it in all actions against member states and advising various agencies on legislative proposals. I was one of nearly 20 interns in the Legal Service, all



Caitlin Price (J.D. '09) during her Nordenberg Fellowship with the Legal Service of the European Commission.

of whom were distinguished law students or lawyers from all over the European Union as well as China and the Ivory Coast. The majority of my work came from my advisor within the business group, a Greek lawyer, former member of the European Parliament, and financial services law expert. With his patient guidance, I became conversant in the emerging body of law governing European Union financial services. Beyond my own relative inexperience with the European legal system, it was an especially exciting concentration as the legal framework is developing and in flux. I was able to attend parliamentary hearings on proposed mechanisms for the supervision and regulation of financial services and track scholarly responses to the emerging European Court of Justice doctrine in the field. My work was put in context as I attended weekly meetings with the business team, allowing me to follow the progress of related cases and contribute findings from my own work. Despite being the only American working in the building and the only member of the Legal Service without a degree in European Union law, I was treated with nothing but respect and given the same meaty, substantive work as the other interns, including advisory notes commenting on legislative proposals and infringement applications submitted to the Court of Justice against member states suspected to be infringing European Community law.

Beyond the work itself and my interesting, inspiring colleagues, I was particularly fascinated with the interplay of language in this highest of European institutions. The European Union currently has 23 official languages into which all cases and legislation must eventually be translated; German, French, and English stand out as the operational languages of the institutions, and all European Union civil servants must be fluent in any two of those three. Even with an extensive French background, I was apprehensive before my arrival in Brussels (itself a linguistically divided city, operating in both French and Flemish) that I would not be able to keep up with the top legal minds conversing in complicated, technical legal French. In fact, what I discovered was an institution full of polyglots who approach language in very practical terms: As a general rule, everyone tended toward his or her most comfortable language. Meetings conducted initially in English would slip into French and back depending on the preference of the speaker; e-mail chains would display conversations bouncing among French, English, German, and occasionally Spanish. At this most respected institution, there was no linguistic pretension; the clear objective was to understand and make oneself understood. My French errors were forgiven



Inside the European Commission's Legal Service *continued*

as quickly as my English proofreading abilities were exploited.

It was this culture of acceptance and collegiality that most strongly marked my experience at the commission. Lawyers from teams ranging from agriculture to competition would set aside their own work to offer each other fresh perspectives. My American identity was treated with respect and as a resource, a potential

outlet of alternative perspectives on the issue at hand. Despite a global economic crisis, and despite a European Community-wide crisis as the proposed Treaty of Lisbon faltered following an Irish referendum in June, the lawyers and other civil servants I observed and served with turned immediately away from setbacks in search of new solutions. The interdependence between the European Community and the United States cannot

be overstated, and the familiarity I gained with the European system will inform the rest of my legal career. I hope, however, that the most lasting lesson from my time at the Legal Service will be the enthusiasm and dedication with which its lawyers faced the daily task of navigating the course of jurisprudence to be applied to 27 sovereign countries.

CILE Returns to Slovakia for Training Program for U.S. Steel Lawyers



Professors Harry Flechtner and Ronald Brand with U.S. Steel lawyers at Košice training.

Continuing a three-year cooperative arrangement with the United States Steel Corporation and its affiliates in Slovakia and Serbia, the Center for International Legal Education (CILE) will once again be conducting training courses for lawyers from the company at its Košice, Slovakia location. Professors Ronald A. Brand and Harry Flechtner will be returning to Košice to conduct a commercial transaction simulation. They will be joined by Professor Spencer Weber Waller of Loyola University Chicago School of Law, who will teach

a course on international antitrust and competition law. Previous courses have included the CILE English for Lawyers program, with Professor Teresa Brostoff and Associate Professor Ann Sinsheimer; Legal Ethics with Professor John Burkoff; Comparative Corporate Governance with Professor Douglas Branson, W. Edward Sell Professor of Business Law; Introduction to American Law with Brand; and International Business Transactions and International Commercial Law with Brand and Flechtner.

JURIST and CILE Dateline Cooperation Expands Dramatically

Last year, the Center for International Legal Education (CILE) and the award-winning JURIST academic legal Web site instituted a highly successful pilot program involving University of Pittsburgh School of Law J.D. students writing for JURIST while participating in overseas internships. CILE and JURIST have continued the program, taking advantage of the increased number of students participating in overseas internships. This year, students have written for JURIST's Dateline from five different countries, contributing nearly a dozen different articles. The content ranges from discussion of the first gay marriage ceremony in Greece to the challenges of World Trade Organization involvement in Ethiopia. Check out the results at jurist.law.pitt.edu/dateline.

CILE Receives Second Contract for Gulf Region Training

The Center for International Legal Education (CILE) has been awarded a second contract by the Commercial Law Development Program of the U.S. Department of Commerce U.S.-Middle East Partnership Initiative to assist law faculties in the development of international arbitration and commercial law curricula.

Using the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot as a focus and following the success of last year's program with the University of Bahrain, CILE will work with the Sultan Qaboos College of Law in Oman during the 2008-09 academic year to develop a Vis team and expand curricular offerings. Professor

Ronald Brand will coordinate the Vis preparation, with Professor Teresa Brostoff and Associate Professor Ann Sinsheimer teaching a course in legal English capacity building. The contract includes an option to extend the program for two additional years at other universities in the region.



Alcoa Support for Internships Expands Pitt Law Presence Around the Globe



2008 overseas summer interns (left to right) Max Laun from Alcoa, Derek Illar, Robin Belinsky, Chan Braithwaite, Aleksandra Williams, Grazia Mari, and Carrie Cecil. Alcoa provides generous support to assist in the expenses of overseas internships for J.D. students.

A fundamental component of the University of Pittsburgh LL.M. program has been the opportunity for each student to engage in a summer internship after completion of his or her formal studies. Internship opportunities are offered at law departments at Alcoa, Heinz, Westinghouse, many great law firms, judges' chambers, and nonprofit organizations. Pitt is one of very few LL.M. programs that offers an internship experience to each LL.M. graduate who wants one.

The Center for International Legal Education (CILE) staff also has worked hard to make it possible for J.D. students to have the experience of a summer internship abroad. This process expanded in 2008 as Alcoa continued its financial support for student expenses of internships and summer study. CILE was able to leverage that contribution into more than \$45,000 in financial support for overseas study and internships. Students worked at internships obtained through competitive application processes

as well as internships arranged directly by CILE. They worked with governments, nongovernmental organizations, and private enterprise, obtaining unparalleled experience in each instance. Several of this year's internships were arranged by LL.M. graduates from the Pitt School of Law program. The following is a list of some of the students and their internship placements in summer 2008.

- **Jordan Austin** interned at the **Heskia-Hacmun Law Firm** in Tel Aviv, Israel.
- **Robin Belinsky** interned at the **Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law** in Hamburg, Germany.
- **Nelson Berardinelli** interned at the **Lawyers Committee for Human Rights** in Belgrade, Serbia.
- **Chan Braithwaite** interned at **Lawyers for Democracy** in Belgrade, Serbia.
- **Laura Bunting** interned at **Architects for Aid** in London, United Kingdom.
- **Carrie Cecil** interned at the **Beiten Burkhardt Law Firm** in Kiev, Ukraine.
- **Brittany Conkle** interned at the **South African Commission on Gender Equality** in Cape Town, South Africa.
- **Sarah Drinkwater** interned at the **Forum for Women, Law, and Development** in Kathmandu, Nepal.

- **Emily Fan** interned at **International Bridges to Justice** in Beijing, China.
- **Derek Illar** interned at **Associazione Nazionale Cultura Educazione Internazionale and Goodwill Italia** in Rome, Italy.
- **Eric Linge** interned at the **Ethiopian Ministry of Trade and Industry** in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- **Grazia Mari** interned at the law offices of **John M. Tripidakis and Jennie Giannakopoulou** in Athens, Greece.
- **Caitlin Price** interned at the **Legal Service of the European Commission** in Brussels, Belgium.
- **James Quinn** conducted research on **public health organizations and legislation** in Bangalore, India.
- **Jonathan Rhein** interned at the **Pagtinabangay Foundation** in Ormoc City, Philippines.
- **Harold Smith** interned at **Magisters** law firm in Moscow, Russia and Kiev, Ukraine.
- **Aleksandra Williams** interned at the **Beiten Burkhardt Law Firm** in Kiev, Ukraine.
- **Desiree Williams** interned at the **Hong Kong Department of Justice Prosecution Division** in Hong Kong, China.

International Law Society 2008-09

- President:** Lindsay Still
Vice President: Adrianna Yanez
Secretary: Juanshu Wang
Treasurer: Carrie Cecil



Iraqi Jessup Team Visits D.C., Pitt

By Haider Ala Hamoudi, Associate Professor of Law

Funds provided by the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq; the International Law Students Association; and the University of Pittsburgh School of Law helped bring an Iraqi delegation of students and faculty to the international rounds of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition and Pitt's School of Law for a campus visit. We were delighted to host the delegation and believe the trip was a great success.

The first stop was the Jessup competition, the largest moot court competition in the world, which this year drew 500-plus students from 77 countries. The Iraqi team participated in oral advocacy rounds against students from other countries. The oral rounds, which were translated between Arabic and English, were judged by experts in the field who gave each student extensive feedback at the end of the round. After their successful performance in Washington, D.C., the delegation traveled to Pitt, where they met with a number of faculty of comparative and international law, including Professors Vivian Curran, Ronald Brand, and Harry Flechtner. Another series of meetings were held with the Muslim Law



Professor Ronald Brand, Katerina Ossenova (J.D. '08), Lajan Muhammed Amin, Avesta Ahmad, Professor Jalal Jaff, and Associate Professor Haider Ala Hamoudi during the Iraqi Jessup team's visit to Pitt.

Students Association, informal groups of foreign LL.M. students, and Pitt students who had participated in the Jessup. These were in part networking opportunities, giving the delegation a chance to make friends and establish relationships with other rising legal professionals with similar interests. Members of the Iraqi delegation learned

a tremendous amount about international law, U.S. law, and the law of other countries. They also made friends and professional contacts with students and professors from around the world. We believe the delegation members returned home having learned the value of intercultural exchange and the rule of law.

Professor Charles Swift Delivers 16th Annual McLean Lecture on *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*

Charles Swift, visiting associate professor at Emory University School of Law and former U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG) officer, gave the 16th Annual McLean Lecture on World Law on April 17, 2008. Swift, who is legal counsel to Salim Ahmed Hamdan, whose case concerning the legitimacy of the Guantanamo Bay military commissions was heard by the U.S. Supreme Court, spoke on "U.S. Sovereignty and the War on Terror After *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*." His talk focused on the events

that led to his being assigned to the case and the process involved in providing effective legal representation to a client with whom he was not often allowed consult and in a case in which he was not allowed to see the prosecution's evidence. Swift also spoke about the history of the U.S. Uniform Code of Military Justice and Common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions, which were key elements of the case, and the future of Hamdan's case.



Charles Swift at the 16th Annual McLean Lecture on World Law.



Williams Receives Reed Smith Fellowship

Aleksandra (Sasha) Williams (J.D. '10), a University of Pittsburgh School of Law student who spent the summer of 2008 working at the Beiten Burkhardt Law Firm in Kiev, Ukraine, through the efforts of a Pitt LL.M. graduate and support from a Center for Legal Education (CILE)-Alcoa Fellowship, received the seventh Reed Smith Fellowship on July 28, 2008. Established in 2002, the Reed Smith Fellowship is given annually to a first-year law student who demonstrates excellent scholarship while overcoming economic or social adversity in pursuit of a law degree. Reed Smith indicated that Williams was chosen in part because of the journey she has taken from her childhood in the Soviet Union to her current status as a law student. Attending the award ceremony in Reed Smith's Pittsburgh offices were Lu-in Wang, associate dean for academic affairs, School of Law; Bob Donnorummo, associate director, Center for Russian and East European Studies; and D. Wes Rist, assistant director, CILE, along with Williams' family and friends.



CILE Assistant Director D. Wes Rist, Aleksandra Williams (J.D. '10), and Bob Donnorummo, associate director, Center for Russian and East European Studies.

CILE Hosts Roundtable on Getting on Top of International Commercial Law and Arbitration



(Left to right) Professors Ronald Brand, Jack Graves, Franco Ferrari, and Harry Flechtner at the Getting on Top of International Commercial Law and Arbitration roundtable.

On March 28, 2008, the Center for International Legal Education (CILE) hosted Professor Franco Ferrari from the Verona University School of Law in Italy and Associate Professor Jack Graves from the Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center at Touro College in New York for a special continuing legal education roundtable on international arbitration and commercial law. Professors Ronald A. Brand and Harry Flechtner chaired the roundtable

in the historic Babcock Room at the top of the University of Pittsburgh Cathedral of Learning. Ferrari spoke on "New CISG Case Law" and Graves spoke on "Arbitration as Contract: The Importance of Default Rules," while Brand and Flechtner provided commentary in light of recent international developments in the field. The American Branch of the International Law Association cosponsored the event.

Visitors from Germany, Philippines Add to Pitt Law Courses

The Center for International Legal Education (CILE) is once again hosting several visiting professors from around the world to enhance the course selection at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. During the 2008-09 academic year, Pitt law students will have the opportunity to take classes from three professors from the University of Augsburg, Germany. Professor Dr. Volker Behr will teach Transnational Litigation with Professor Ronald A. Brand in the fall term, Professor Dr. Beate Gsell will teach Comparative Sales Law and

European Sales Law in the spring term, and Dr. Stefan Lorenzmeier will teach Introduction to European Union Law in the fall term. In addition, Associate Professorial Lecturer Jose Luis Syquia (LL.M. '98) of the University of Santo Tomas, Philippines will teach Law, Development, and Policy Reform in Developing Countries in the spring term. All four visitors continue the CILE tradition of bringing international experts to Pitt to teach unique classes for J.D. students.



Connecting and Collecting Through the CILE Teaching Network

By Linda Tashbook (J.D. '96), international law librarian

The first time you teach a class, you feel like an outright idiot. You're dressed too well, exhibiting yourself as an expert, declaring rules, and otherwise acting like all of the professors who once confined your freedom and controlled your success. Worst of all, you might not be able to get anyone in the entire roomful of students to ever learn anything.

The two great promises of teaching are (1) that someday you'll be able to glide into any room and deliver brilliant fluid remarks without even thinking about it and (2) that you will see your work's effects on the world. In our eternal effort to continue relations with our ever-expanding coterie of friends and alumni, we have created the Center for International Legal Education (CILE) Teaching Network as a forum through which to experience these two great teaching benefits.

The CILE Teaching Network is a reserved space on the Internet where CILE affiliates

can read and post sample lessons, course syllabi, teaching techniques, and other resources related to presenting effective classes. It's a place to put good examples that will help other CILE affiliates develop new courses or plan and revise old ones.

In addition to organizing this course-related communication exchange, we have reloaded the network with links to outside resources: video lectures on international law (from which you can learn style and method), professional opportunities (conferences, jobs, grants), and international moot competitions (because teaching law often expands into coaching moots). Sample posts already in the CILE Teaching Network include how to make a lecture interesting, how to develop your own wiki, and basic tips for class discussions.

This teaching network is an elaboration of our belief that legal education is an export commodity. Since information is a resource that increases in value and volume as it is

used, a collection of information about legal education must be an ever-growing asset for those who contribute information to the site and for those who use the information on the site. We hope our affiliates will find it valuable. Please contact us at cile@pitt.edu for a user name and password so that you can begin posting ideas and acquiring inspiration.

Sample Posts Already in the CILE Teaching Network:

- How to Make a Lecture Interesting
- Developing Your Own Wiki
- Basic Tips for Class Discussions

CILE Visiting Professors speak on "Bringing Europe to Pittsburgh"



(Left to right) Professors Atamer, Brand, Wainwright, and Gardini at the "Bringing Europe to Pittsburgh" Lecture.

Center for International Legal Education (CILE) Visiting Professors Yesim Atamer from Turkey, Marco Gardini (LL.M. '97) from Italy, and Richard Wainwright from Great Britain provided a unique combination of perspectives on current issues in

Europe on January 30, 2008. The three professors touched on issues ranging from future Turkish accession to the European Union, to legal education in Europe, to votes on the Treaty of Lisbon.

U.N. Assistant Secretary-General Johnson Lectures on International Justice

Larry D. Johnson, assistant secretary-general for the United Nations (UN) Office of Legal Affairs, returned to the University of Pittsburgh School of Law on October 18, 2007, to lecture on "Advancing International Justice: The Varieties of UN-sponsored Criminal Tribunals." His talk focused on the challenges facing the international community in pursuing justice on an international level. Johnson was Pitt's fourth annual McLean lecturer on world law in 1995.



American Legal Education Impact in Kosovo

by Vjosa Osmani (LL.M. '05) and Korab Sejdiu (*Advisors to the President of the Republic of Kosovo*)

It has been said that there is no control group in a human life, no way to ever know how any of us would have turned out if any variables had changed or we had taken different paths in life. To wit, no one will ever know how life would have turned out for us had we chosen to stay in the United States. All that we can account for is how our lives have turned out after making the decision to return to our country and contribute to the birth and advancement of our newborn nation, the Republic of Kosovo.

We abandoned what could have been successful futures in the United States and returned to perform, at a very young age, work that we would not be able to perform had we not received quality education from U.S. universities. Currently we both serve as advisors to the president of the Republic of Kosovo, Dr. Fatmir Sejdiu, and at the same time we are engaged as university professors.

While studying and living in the United States, we had the chance to hear a lot about the founding fathers and the drafters of the Constitution of the United States that stands strong to date. As we learned of those historic people, we were dreaming of the day when our nation would gain its independence and our centuries-long quest for freedom would come to fruition. But never did we dream that we would in fact be a part of the group of people who would draft the first constitution of the independent and sovereign Republic of Kosovo. Nor did we ever dream that we would draft legislation that will establish Kosovo's first-ever Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Diplomatic Service, Kosovo's Army and its Intelligence Service, the Constitutional Court, and other agencies that form the essence of a sovereign country. As advisers to President Sejdiu, we are also tasked with initiating legislation, lobbying on behalf of the president for the recognition of Kosovo as independent, leading the efforts of the president in reforming the judiciary, and working with all the communities living in Kosovo to establish the Communities' Consultative Council.



Korab Sejdiu; Dr. Fatmir Sejdiu, President of Kosovo; and Vjosa Osmani (LL.M. '05).

The Republic of Kosovo was declared independent on February 17, 2008, in accordance with the will of the majority of the people of Kosovo, and in coordination with our friends and allies, primarily with the United States of America and the European Union. Our newborn country has been widely embraced by the democratic world, by nations from all the continents throughout the globe. Kosovo has finally marked off its own place in the political map of the world and is desirous of being surrounded by friendly neighbors, with which it can integrate into Europe, where it belongs geographically and culturally.

We are working steadfastly to convince all communities living in Kosovo that this is our common homeland—everyone's, regardless of their background—and that our time is a time of equality for all, and not of dominance of some over others. Nourished with values of freedom, democracy, and respect for the diversity among nations, the people and the institutions of Kosovo have offered to embrace all those who promote the same values. We were taught these values first and foremost by our families, and by our people, who for decades have made the most sublime sacrifices for freedom. And we were lucky enough to live and study in a country that is the very

example of these values, the leader of democracy and freedom, the United States of America. Indeed, we were lucky enough to study in universities where we were constantly reminded of the importance of the love for our country and that each and every one of us can play a role in the struggle for human freedom as a fundamental value of a democratic society. Importantly, we were taught about the importance the rule of law has in the existence of a democratic country.

The Republic of Kosovo has embarked on its long journey toward overall recovery. We are grateful to the United States and to our universities for preparing us to help the president of the republic in leading the efforts for our country's revival. And as we work on Kosovo's strategic development, our experiences in the U.S. educational system have led us to make education one of our country's national priorities. Our education in the United States has helped us understand that the development of this strategic sphere touches the very fabric of our being, especially in view of the fact that Kosovo has the youngest population in Europe. While serving as professors in Kosovo, we convey U.S. teaching methods to our stu-

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American Legal Education Impact in Kosovo *continued*

dents and help them understand that they have their own futures in their grasp. But we often remind them that their country needs them as much as they need their country. For them, we serve as an example of thousands of young professionals who came back to help the advancement of Kosovo, the youngest democracy in the world. We inform them that no job or salary in the United States could compare to the pride we felt when the president of the republic was reading lines from the text of Kosovo's first constitution, words that the two of us had drafted.

While we continue playing our role in making the Republic of Kosovo a country that produces stability, we are

mindful to often express our gratitude to the United States for hosting us during the most difficult times for our nation, and our gratitude for the University of Pittsburgh and Widener University for not only making us better professionals but also better persons. Our attitude reflects the general sense of gratitude of the Kosovo people for the aid the United States gave Kosovo at an hour when they faced extermination; for having recognized the Republic of Kosovo as an independent and sovereign nation; and for the United States' continued support for Kosovo in its efforts to develop and become a proud member of the community of sustainable, developed, and free nations of the world.

As it is evident, our chosen path has proved to be an exciting one. Thus, we intend to serve as advisors to President Sejdiu for the remainder of his term. Whatever we choose to do after that, we hope to one day tell our children and grandchildren that our work helped lay the foundations of the country in which they live.

Vjosa Osmani (LL.M. University of Pittsburgh School of Law) and Korab Sejdiu (J.D. Widener University School of Law) are both advisors to the president of the Republic of Kosovo and teach at Riinvest University and the University of Prishtina.

Taking Pitt Law back to Albania

by Bujar Tahoe (Pani)* (LL.M. '07)

The greatest contribution the University of Pittsburgh School of Law gave me was to make me feel like a successful professional and a happy father and husband.

I completed my LL.M. degree at Pitt in 2007, and since then my professional career has been rising dramatically. In the year following my graduation, I experienced working in a law firm, being a law pedagogue, and working for the United Nations. The first two experiences were quite new to me, and I must say that thanks to knowledge and skills I got at Pitt, I managed to succeed in both. My current job with the United Nations Development Program is another step in my career in which my LL.M. has had a great impact.

In my eight months at the law firm Apicella and Partners, I had the chance to practice business law, utilizing the writing and reasoning I gained in Pitt law classes, especially in Legal Writing and Analysis. Some of the clients were American law firms, and they appreciated my legal opinions and advice.

I was also engaged in teaching at the Justiniani First Law School. Although I have had many experiences in delivering

training sessions, teaching at the university is a different experience. I had some 300 first-year students and applied the Socratic method during my seminars with them. They seemed to like the way I organized the seminar, and I have often heard very positive comments about my class both by students and colleagues. I remember one student who told me, "In your class I started to learn by thinking and not only by reading." It reminded me of classes at Pitt where students were proactively participating in class, and I felt very happy to have brought a piece of the Pitt environment to Albania and told myself, "Yes, you did it!"

I am now working for the United Nations on a project targeting vulnerable minorities and am being trained to become project manager in April 2009. During this experience I have been negotiating and establishing partnership agreements with both nongovernmental organizations and governmental agencies, making great use of skills I obtained at Pitt, particularly in my dispute resolution class.

My personal life has also changed positively since I left Pitt. While there, I said goodbye to my son, Gerald, at the time only

8 months old, and his mother, Marsela, in Albania to go to the United States to study, and I felt like a bad father. Even worse, not having my dear wife with me, I realized how terrible a cook I am. Now things are as they should be. I am a happy father and husband, and both Gerald and Marsela are very proud of me. I must admit that my LL.M. at Pitt and my time there have been very rewarding both for my professional and personal life.

There is an Albanian saying that "the sweet stuff comes at the end." I will always be thankful to those at the Center for International Legal Education for their very kind support, both academically and socially, during my time at Pitt, and to the Fulbright Scholarship program, which provided me the opportunity to receive an American legal education.

**Pani will be soon my surname in respect of my father's decision to honor his grandfather's name, Papani, who played a key role in supporting education of his children and their integration in urban society.*



The Vis in Belgrade: A Picture of CILE-Balkan Cooperation

by Milena Đorđević (LL.M. '02)



Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica with Milena Đorđević (LL.M. '02) and the 2007 University of Belgrade Vis Moot team.

In January 2007 I participated in the roundtable exploring the impact of a Pitt LL.M. degree on other countries (www.law.pitt.edu/academics/cile/llmprogram/roundtable). I want to summarize the impact the University of Pittsburgh School of Law has had on Serbian law students and Serbian legal society by supporting their moot court activities.

It all began seven years ago, while I was studying for my LL.M. degree in Pittsburgh as the first student given such an opportunity under the Pittsburgh-Belgrade cooperation grant. That's where I caught the "mooting bug" and got hooked on the idea to organize participation of the Belgrade team at the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, held annually in Vienna, Austria. Let me emphasize that I had no prior experience with moot courts, given that such activity was unknown to Serbian legal education.

Upon returning to Belgrade, I started working at the University of Belgrade Faculty of Law as a lecturer in international commercial law, where I met Vladimir Pavić, assistant professor in international private law. Vladimir, who was another American graduate (with LL.M. and S.J.D. degrees from the Central European University in Budapest, Hungary), was also

interested in this "moot project." However, at the time, no one paid any attention to what we were doing. Our former dean refused to back the project, and it was very difficult to explain to potential sponsors what all of this was about. If it were a boat race (a situation not that unfamiliar to us, since we both dabbled with rowing for a bit), we would have half a crew, two heavy coxes, and no boat. It was only the encouragement we got from Professors Ronald Brand and Harry Flechtner that kept us going. Luckily enough, the students were willing to get in their "racing gear" regardless of the initial financial difficulties, and the Center for International Legal Education (CILE) managed to "buy us a boat" for the race. On top of that, we had received Professors Brand and Flechtner's intellectual and moral support for our endeavors, which was the best coaching we, still inexperienced in this mooting sport, could have obtained. So we had managed to get the boat in the water and start the race with hundreds of other universities that annually gather around the Vis moot problem. After a couple of years in choppy waters where we "caught a couple of crabs," we finally managed to get into the right pace, maintain a steady rhythm, and finish third (out of 177 teams) in 2007. That

was our third participation in the final rounds of competition (in the five years of participation altogether) and the first award achieved. This year, inspired by the Blue Hills 2005 wine, the 2008 problem for the moot, we've added a couple more trophies to the trophy room. Our students secured an honorable mention for Claimant's memorandum and Jovana Stevović, one of our students, got an honorable mention as one of the best oralists at the moot. The team qualified again for the final rounds for the fourth year in a row, after being ranked ninth after the General Rounds.

None of this seemed possible a couple of years ago. Moot courts were unknown to the Serbian system of legal education; writing legal documents in Serbian, let alone English, was rarely a part of the course curricula; and winning awards at international competitions seemed like an unreachable goal. Belgrade mooties are now local superstars. The best students we have at the faculty are queuing up to get a taste of the moot; they have something to galvanize their efforts and motivate them for extra work. The whole team gets appraisals from our legal community and even from government officials (last year's team was received by both the president and the prime minister of Serbia); students



The Vis in Belgrade: A Picture of CILE-Balkan Cooperation *continued*

appear on prime time TV news and are featured in the most prominent newspapers. The majority of past Vis mooties are now pursuing graduate legal degrees all around Europe and the rest of the world with ease and often with full funding. Those who focus on legal practice rather than on academic work are now employed by the most prestigious corporate law and consulting firms in Serbia. Top Belgrade law firms have no hesitation employing students who have completed the entire moot training process. In fact, the only problem is that there are not enough University of Belgrade mooties to fill all the vacancies. Not surprisingly, there is a feedback effect: As the former mooties are filling up the practice ranks, law offices become a reliable source of funding for the moot. Our current dean is extremely supportive and has helped incorporate mooting into the curriculum. Other faculty members have also started preparing students for other moot competitions in international criminal law, international

humanitarian law, human rights, and other subjects, so now we can proudly state that the diversity of our moot court curricula is one of the highest in the region. The next step may be to establish a moot court center in order to coordinate recruitment, fund-raising, and promotion of moot activities. We have now organized a premoot, on the weekend prior to the real thing in Vienna. The inaugural event featured 15 teams, three of which ended up as semifinalists. More importantly, three of the teams from the region attended the event in order to figure out what the moot is all about and prepare for participating this year. Needless to say, we will be organizing a premoot again. And as a final preparation, we have the famous Nordbahn Hotel Rounds organized by the Pitt team in Vienna. Once we pass that test, we are ready for anything.

In the past six years, we have achieved more in changing the face of our faculty than we ever thought possible. I cannot overstate how important cooperation with

CILE has been in achieving all of this. We could never have done all of this and come this far without the support of Pitt's law school, and Professors Brand and Flechtner in particular. This cooperation has had a real impact on the way in which our curriculum and general approach to teaching has progressed, and has helped our faculty and students better understand American legal culture and legal reasoning.

Despite the fact that U.S. state department funds for the CILE-Belgrade cooperation have long since run out, we are certain we will continue our cooperation and that the personal relationships we have established cannot be broken. I thank the whole faculty of Pitt's law school for the valuable support we have enjoyed. It has changed the careers and professional experience of many a student and teacher in Belgrade and has produced great results. I believe there is still more to come.

Adding a Touch of Serbia to Westinghouse

By Natasa Lalatovic (LL.M. '08)

The opportunity to attend the LL.M. program for foreign law graduates at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law appeared right after I graduated from the University of Belgrade School of Law in Serbia. I was very excited to spend a year in another country, learning about a new culture and a different legal system. The Pitt LL.M. program, however, exceeded all my expectations. In addition to a challenging curriculum, the program included visits to legal institutions in Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C., sports, theaters, holidays with American families, and other out-of-class activities. It gave us a real sense of the American way of living.

However, what the Center for International Legal Education has to offer to its international students does not end here. After graduation, students are offered summer internships in law firms and companies matching their interests. I started my summer internship at Westinghouse Electric Company. The focus of my LL.M. was international business law, and



(Left to right): Westinghouse Senior Vice President and General Counsel Ramsey Coates, Senior Counsel Monica Deoras, and Natasa Lalatovic (LL.M. '08).

Westinghouse was the place to be for my area of interest. I was actively involved in international projects and worked with knowledgeable, professional lawyers who were willing to share their experience, give advice, and discuss and answer all my questions. It is truly an inspiring business environment. But the story does not end here, either. At the end of my summer

internship, I was offered the opportunity to stay and work for Westinghouse for another year. What I thought was already an exquisite experience provided by Pitt's LL.M. program has opened even more doors and created new opportunities that will change my life.



The Future of Kosovo

By Mark Walter (J.D. '98 and former assistant director, CILE)

When I first began working in Kosovo, my answer to the inevitable question—“why?”—was kind of a cop-out. I explained that while I wasn't necessarily a big fan of Kosovo itself or that I was optimistic about its future, I had a few friends and students whom I deeply admired and because of that, I was happy to go along with their estimation of Kosovo's bright future. So, I was there to help them rather than Kosovo. It felt like an honest answer, but I realized it gave me the look of passivity, maybe even gutlessness. I was saying, “Kosovo looks like a reeking hopeless mess to me, but I really like you, so sure, I'll help out.” I struggled with that. Usually, if something seems hopeless, I won't do it no matter how much I respect those who think the opposite. Really.

I'm a pragmatist. I knew my answer was a way to provide rationale without having to look too deeply for reason.

You should understand, though, that Kosovo in 2002 was a picture postcard of failure, so my reluctance to face reality might have been defensible. The place was ugly with its swarms of blackbirds and clouds of lignite soot and its burned-out buildings and its 2 million unsmiling faces. It reeked everywhere of hopelessness. In the smoky kebab houses, in littered, untilled fields, in crumbling streets, and even in the dank little offices of the internationals who were Kosovo's interim administrators.

I've heard this story before; the colonizers become as dejected as the colonized, and pessimism begins to dictate their actions. They become regulators rather than facilitators. The experiment fails. By the time I left Kosovo in early 2006, the United Nations Mission in Kosovo was more ruler than liberator, the economy was a wreck, and the prospects for continued violence were high. My students and friends, the standard bearers of a different kind of Kosovo, who worked tirelessly amid the gloom and consistently rejected opportunities to leave, still seemed to me to be aspiring to the impossible.



Professor Ronald A. Brand and Mark Walter in Kosovo.

“My students and friends, the standard bearers of a different kind of Kosovo, who worked tirelessly amid the gloom and consistently rejected opportunities to leave, still seemed to me to be aspiring to the impossible.”

Fast forward two years. I ran a project in Ethiopia and then found my way back to Kosovo. Something now was very different. The power plant was still belching smoke (when it was working), the streets were still crumbling, and the blackbirds were still a spooky blight. But the stench of futility was gone. And, some smiles had returned. Waiters were convivial and shopkeepers meticulous. I really don't know that anyone can say yet whether the change was solely the result of Kosovo's independence, though excluding it as a cause is, of course, ridiculous. I think it might be that the people I'd thought of as cockeyed were, all along, the pragmatists. They understood the buoyancy hidden within a people whose ambitions had been long neutralized.

Those friends and students are now advisors to the president, prime minister, and line ministers of Kosovo. They are key consultants in the development community. They are the heirs of the legacy the United Nations precariously held for them, and they are treating the legacy not with delicacy but with boldness. Kosovo could still fail, but I doubt that it will. All the great ideas that used to seem only aspirational because they were tempered by a debilitating reality are now racing with ferocious excitement through the halls of the new establishment. And, I can be much more comfortable with my new answer to the inevitable question: I am working with my friends because Kosovo has a future.



An American Lawyer in Kosovo

By Ravi Reddy (J.D. '06)

Like most new employees the world over, I had an informal lunch with my new boss and a few other colleagues during my first week of work. As we ate and discussed office issues, protesters gathered a few blocks away, dissatisfied with the current status of Kosovo and impatient for independence. My boss was the director of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) Department of Justice (DOJ) and had been assigned bodyguards following a high-stakes war crimes prosecution. As the protest grew, his bodyguards began discussing evacuation measures and politely informed me that there probably would not be enough room in their armored car for me should an evacuation be ordered. Although I was increasingly nervous, my colleagues continued with their conversation, periodically taking in the bodyguards' assessments, and quickly turning back to the conversation. Over time I would learn how to stay relaxed under these forbidding situations, but that day I couldn't help wondering what I had gotten myself into. Much to my relief, the protest wrapped up peacefully by the time we left the restaurant, and the scene we encountered in our short walk back to the office was one of complete normalcy. The political mood fluctuates rapidly in Kosovo, I would find out, and the bodyguards were still apprehensive, recalling the protests of March 2004, when frustration over the delay of the status of Kosovo and ethnic tensions boiled over into the large-scale destruction of ethnic Serbian homes and business and attacks on UNMIK buildings and vehicles.

That was in November 2006, and I had just completed a short postgraduate legal clerkship for the director of the United States advocacy program at Human Rights Watch in Washington, D.C. It was not my first time in Kosovo, as I took a brief trip to Pristina, the capital of Kosovo, in May 2006 at the behest of former Center for International Legal Education (CILE) Assistant Director Mark Walter. While there, I made crucial contacts, and after interviewing in the autumn, I received an offer to join UNMIK as a judicial inspector.

However, I was informed just before my arrival that I would have to cover for another recent recruit who had come down with malaria in Sierra Leone and would be sent to work temporarily in the Office of the Director instead of the judicial inspection unit. The special assistant to the director (tantamount to a chief of staff position) was due to go to Australia for surgery, and the other attorney in the office suffered a tragic death in the family and had to go home to attend to family affairs. So, I was placed in the role of acting special assistant to the director of the DOJ after only one week of training in Kosovo. I was tasked with providing legal advice and support to assist the director of the DOJ in overseeing staff in many diverse areas: judicial development, international legal assistance, corrections, and the international judges and prosecutors, as well as general administration matters.

Luckily I had experience juggling diverse substantive experiences. While at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, CILE provided me with a wide variety of ways to augment my traditional legal education, such as international internships in Serbia and Haiti, study abroad in the United Kingdom, participation in the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot court competition, and organizing a conference for the National Lawyers Guild on international law.

Working in the Office of the Director was a trial by fire in a number of ways, but when the smoke cleared, the director decided to keep me in his office. Since then, I have been able to work on some of the most fascinating legal issues facing the UNMIK DOJ and have also taken part in a number of special assignments as a part of various commissions.

One of my first special assignments was the investigation of the deaths of two protesters in February 2007. A group called Vetevendosja, Albanian for "self-determination," had protested in support of a referendum on independence. When the protest turned violent, tear gas and rubber bullets were deployed by United Nations police, resulting in the deaths of two protesters and injuries to a number of others.

I was assigned to the special international prosecutor heading the investigation of the two deaths. One of my specific tasks during the investigation was to determine the scope and content of international standards regarding the use of force generally, and rubber bullets specifically, in a riot situation. Our report on a relatively novel area of law resulted in an overhaul of United Nations policy concerning the use of rubber bullets in field missions. In August 2007, I was assigned to the Dubrava Commission to review the escape of seven high-risk detainees from the Dubrava prison in Kosovo. The facts were straight out of a novel. The detainees sneaked a gun into the prison, and their cohorts on the outside pinned down the perimeter guards with automatic gunfire to cover their escape. I took part in numerous interviews and field visits to the prison and assisted a panel of experts in the presentation of its recommendations on how best to prevent such incidents in the future.

“This may not be everyone’s ideal line of work, but I have found it to be incredibly interesting.”

I am now focusing on the reconfiguration of UNMIK, the technical aspects of facilitating the transfer of competencies to Kosovo authorities and other international organizations, and the general operations of the DOJ. Following Kosovo's Declaration of Independence, UNMIK is likely to reconfigure into a much smaller presence and will give the European Union a much greater role in the rule-of-law sector. This leaves me looking forward to the next challenge, whether in Kosovo or elsewhere.

This may not be everyone's ideal line of work, but I have found it to be incredibly interesting. I can honestly say that the University of Pittsburgh School of Law was a wonderful place to make it all happen.



J.D.s in the Balkans: Two Perspectives on Legal Internships in Serbia

By Nelson Berardinelli (J.D. '09)

This summer I had the privilege of interning in Belgrade, Serbia, for two months with the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights (YUCOM). YUCOM is a nongovernmental organization (NGO) dedicated to the prevention of human rights violations as well as the rendering of assistance to those whose rights have been violated. During my internship with YUCOM, I was able to learn about war crimes committed in the Balkans through the lens of various international (International Court of Justice, International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, European Court of Human Rights) and domestic (Republic of Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina) legal systems. Studying not only the legal but also the political and historical context in which these war crimes were committed helped me to understand the variety of ways in which governments and international organizations define and deal with war crimes.

My work also taught me that the United States and most European countries treat hate speech (and to a lesser degree, hate crimes) very differently. My many interactions with the Serbian legal system and its inconsistent legal procedures woke me



Chan Braithwaite (J.D. '10) and Nelson Berardinelli (J.D. '09) at the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights in Belgrade, Serbia.

up to just how difficult it is for countries in transition to conduct their legal affairs fairly and efficiently. It was interesting to see how Serbia's turbulent past has affected the worldview of many of its citizens. At times it was difficult to work in a country where human rights initiatives (and NGOs in

general) were not only unappreciated but also looked down upon by the general public. Many Serbians seemed to be opposed to all NGOs, feeling they were interfering with Serbia's sovereignty or importing unwelcome Western ideals. While this was frustrating, it became less so as I began to understand Serbian culture.

Being completely immersed in an area of the world filled with citizens who have worldviews very different from those in the United States was a life-changing experience. I recommend that anyone planning a similar summer internship get in contact with the Center for International Legal Education (CILE) early in your decision-making process (preferably early in the fall term). My internship was unpaid, so the funding I received from CILE was critical in allowing me to have such a wonderful experience. Finally, my biggest recommendation to anyone planning on completing such an internship is to research the country you will be living in as much as you can both before you apply and before you depart. Having a thorough understanding of where you will be living prior to arrival will make adapting to an unfamiliar culture much easier.

By Chan Braithwaite (J.D. '10)

I was drawn to an internship in Serbia by the combination of its 2006 adoption of a constitution and the political and historical culture that led up to that. I also hoped to expand my understanding of the application of international law in a transition state. The Lawyers Committee for Human Rights (YUCOM) accepted my internship application through a collaborative effort with the Center for International Legal Education. Curiosity then led me to the surprisingly abundant resources on Serbian culture in the Pittsburgh area. Auditing a Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian language course, speaking with Serbian LL.M. students, and attending activities at the American Serbian Club offered, quite literally, my first taste of Serbia before leaving for Belgrade.

The summer internship with YUCOM proved to be extremely valuable. I went to the Balkans with a clouded knowledge

of human rights issues in the region, but left with my eyes opened to the pressing realities of living in Serbia. As an intern for YUCOM, I worked alongside gifted professionals concerned for the general betterment of Serbia. Throughout the summer, our organization engaged in activities and proceedings promoting rule-of-law initiatives, free access to information, the creation of the office of an ombudsman, and other large-scale campaigns. I was also able to join in the compelling legal aid services offered by YUCOM.

In June, after nearly seven years of involvement, YUCOM received a favorable conclusion to the *Bodrozic v. Serbia* case when the Serbian Ministry of Justice acknowledged a decision by the United Nations Human Rights Committee to some degree by awarding Zeljko Bodrozic 800,000 RSD (over \$16,000). YUCOM had struggled for years

against the deficiencies in Serbian legislation for implementing this—the first decision against Serbia from a United Nations body—because of its significance to future application of international decisions. I gained intimate knowledge of the Bodrozic case and Serbia's dynamic interactions with international courts as I prepared a final analysis of the case's impact.

I also faced many sobering experiences outside the office during my summer in the former Yugoslavia. On the 13th anniversary of the Srebrenica massacre, I was in Srebrenica, where approximately 8,000 Bosnian men and boys died in July 1995. I spent that day wandering throughout the mountain village cemetery with thousands of mourners who had gathered to rebury the remains of 308 newly identified friends and family members taken from the mass

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J.D.s in the Balkans: Two Perspectives on Legal Internships in Serbia *continued*

grave sites. There are no words to describe the sense of community I felt as I became immersed in the beautiful ceremony. One week later, the former president of Republika Srpska, Radovan Karadzic, who

likely ordered the deaths at Srebrenica, was captured in Belgrade after 12 years of evading authorities. The excitement and upheaval that swept over the city before he was extradited to The Hague was a final

exclamation point to my summer in Serbia. For me, Serbia turned out to be the laboratory of human rights law I could only have dreamed it to be.

Investment in Education Pays Off

by Luljeta Plakolli-Kasumi (LL.M. '06)

After a remarkable and challenging year at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 2005–06, I came back to my home country of Kosovo to become a part of the reforms. As I was waiting to depart, I could almost hear my own heartbeat from the mix of feelings I was experiencing. On one hand, I felt very excited for what I had accomplished during my academic year at Pitt and for all the ideas and plans that I had designed to carry out upon my return. On the other hand, I felt a little bit frightened from the obstacles I knew I would encounter.

Just as I had imagined, the beginning was not easy at all. During my law school studies, I had focused on intellectual property law, which quickly became my passion and all I wanted to do in the future. Unfortunately, this field was not sufficiently explored or known by many people in Kosovo, and this gave me little space to achieve the goals I had planned. That being said, I spent almost a year searching for ways to start transferring all I had learned about intellectual property law to Kosovo.

In October 2007, I was accepted as an assistant professor at the University of Prishtina Faculty of Law. As I was being hired, the faculty was dealing with efforts to reform the legal education system. A considerable number of young professionals were employed in all faculties and departments in the university as part of a broader reform known as the Bologna Process. Young assistants with degrees from the United States or European Union were paired with senior professors with the aim of exchanging their respective experiences and teaching methods, and hence contributing to the overall education reform process. I was assigned to teach civil procedure, which until then was mostly theoretical and lacked a practical side. With this in mind, I started to work on my own curriculum, which concentrated

more on practical exercises and case studies. I began to apply the interactive method of teaching I had learned at Pitt. This not only helped students to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the subject matter but also taught them how to work in groups and think critically about the class discussions. While my students demonstrated good results, the job did not bring into play my intellectual property skills.

Kosovo's intellectual property legislation was promulgated in 2006. One year later, the Intellectual Property Office was established within the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Despite these legislative reforms, the enforcement and protection of intellectual property rights in Kosovo remain a challenge due to the limited understanding of intellectual property and its impact on the economic growth of our country. With this in mind, I approached the Kosovo institutions with the aim of providing them my support on the establishment and functioning of these offices, but for different reasons, these efforts proved to be inefficient.

Fortunately, there were other people trying to do the same thing. In December 2007, I was asked to train groups of professionals on intellectual property law issues. This invitation came from the U.S. Agency for International Development-funded Economic Management for Stability and Growth (EMSG) project. The primary objective of the EMSG project is to establish a sustainable legal environment that will promote economic growth through trainings of the main stakeholders in different commercial law fields. In order to achieve this goal, the project initially gathered three lawyers who would design courses on trademark law, arbitration, and business organizations. The idea was to design all three courses by using EMSG's training techniques consisting of exercises, role playing, and case studies. Although I

had learned about these methods at Pitt, there were differences between techniques used in training from those used in teaching. After completing the Training of Trainers course provided by EMSG, I designed my Trademark Protection and Enforcement course manual and was ready to begin.

The first training program with judges took place in April 2008 at the Kosovo Judicial Institute and was a great success. The trainees appreciated and valued the importance of trademarks to the country's economy, which in turn meant that I managed to convey not only my knowledge and experience but my passion as well.

Now, I am looking forward to other courses scheduled to take place with the Kosovo Chamber of Advocates, Kosovo Chamber of Commerce, and the University of Prishtina. Dates are already set for the copyright training package in 2009, involving similar manuals and training materials. The first manual I produced with the help of BearingPoint is now in the hands of judges, lawyers, and businesses and is used as a reference when they deal with trademark cases in their daily work.

My career and professional success were predetermined by the education I received at Pitt. The knowledge I gained in the field of intellectual property law, the methods of instruction, and personal relationships with professors and students will guide me throughout my personal and professional life. My message to the new generation of students of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law is that you don't have to be afraid and should not let doubts stop you from achieving your dreams. Your investment in your education will pay off. Mine surely has, and for this I am eternally grateful to the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and to the American people.

LL.M. Class of 2009



The LL.M. Class of 2009 at the annual trip to the Frank Lloyd Wright house, Fallingwater.



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Ulla Bak (Denmark) received her master's degree in law from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1977. She was an assistant professor there for nearly a decade, before leaving to found and manage a private law firm for 13 years. She also supervised the Fritz Sørensen Foundation, served as director of the Board of Representatives of Unibank A/S, and was chair of the Nebbelunde Ferring Foundation. In 1994, Bak cofounded the EMX Group and served as the chief executive officer and chief legal officer of EMX Corporation from 2002 to 2007.

Gunesh Bakgalova (Turkmenistan) received her first law degree from Turkmen State University in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, in 1999. She worked as a lecturer in international law, international economic law, and international organizations at Turkmen State University before joining the Turkmenistan Ministry of Trade and Foreign Economic Relations as a legal expert. Bakgalova joined the American Bar Association Central European and Eurasian law initiative in Turkmenistan as a staff attorney in 2004 and assumed the head of office position until her departure in 2007. She is the recipient of an Edmund S. Muskie Graduate Fellowship.

Lars Benecke (Germany) received his first law degree from Universität zu Köln in Cologne, Germany, in 1988; his master's degree in law from the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, in 1989; and his PhD in law from Universität Bielefeld, Germany, in 1993. He worked as legal counsel in the German Federal Department of Economics until 1997, when he joined Bayer AG as legal counsel. Benecke has served as general counsel to Bayer MaterialScience AG since 2004.

Carolina Botero (Colombia) received her LL.B. from the Universidad de los Andes, in Bogota, Colombia, in 2004 and her master's degree in law from the Université Paris X Nanterre, France, in 2007. She was an intern with the Muñoz Tamayo law firm in 2003 and worked as a staff attorney for Durán & Osorio law

firm from 2004 to 2006. Botero served as a teaching assistant at the Universidad de Los Andes in telecommunications law.

Esther Destin (Uganda) received her first law degree from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, in Durban, South Africa, in 2006, where she was a semifinalist in the KwaZulu-Natal moot court competition. Destin worked as an HIV youth educator until 2003 and was a junior assistant at Kituuma-Magala & Co. Advocates in Uganda from 2006 to 2007.

Yong Gan (People's Republic of China) received his first law degree, his master's degree in law, and his Ph.D. in law from Wuhan University, China, in 1997, 2001, and 2004, respectively. He has published extensively on issues in international and comparative law, as well as Chinese securities law. Gan is a lecturer at the Wuhan

LL.M. Class of 2009 *continued*

University Law School. He has been a visiting research scholar at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law since January 2008.

Xiaoqian Gu (People's Republic of China) received her first law degree from Shanghai International Studies University in China in 2008. She worked as a summer intern in the legal department of the State Administration of Taxation in Huaibei, Anhui Province in 2005 and 2006. Gu worked as a lawyer's assistant at the Shanghai Konosko Law Firm in the summer of 2007.

Yongwook Kim (Republic of Korea) received his first law degree from Hanyang University in Seoul, Korea, in 1993. He has worked as a chief investigator in the Seoul district prosecutor's office and as the assistant director in the international criminal affairs division of the Korean Ministry of Justice. Kim is the professor for prosecutorial investigators at the Judicial Research and Training Institute in Seoul.

Donike Qerimi (Kosovo) received her first law degree from the University of Prishtina, Kosovo, in 2008. She was a participant on the 2008 Prishtina Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot competition team and was named Best Oralist in the Kosovo Law Moot Court challenge. Qerimi worked for the Kosovar nongovernmental organization Integra as the director of the Department of European Integration and Democratization from 2005 to 2007. Qerimi is a recipient of a tuition fellowship from the University Center for International Studies.

Raed Taher (Saudi Arabia) received his first law degree from King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, in 2004. Following graduation, he worked as a practicing lawyer at the Nidal Atta Law Firm in Jeddah. From 2005 to 2006, Taher worked as a legal expert at LUKOIL Saudi Arabia



Sara West, Caroline West (J.D. '94), and Antonio Castracani of Franklin West, Inc. with the 2009 Franklin West Fellows, Sergii Zheka and Shengjie Yu. Franklin West, Inc. provides generous support to the University of Pittsburgh School of Law LL.M. program every year in the form of two housing fellowships.

Energy Limited in Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia. He is the recipient of a full scholarship from the government of Saudi Arabia.

Lithemba Velleman (South Africa) received his first law degree from the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2005. He was a finalist in the Bram Fischer human rights law moot competition and represented Witwatersrand at the African human rights moot court competition in Tanzania in 2005. Velleman joined Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr, one of South Africa's largest commercial law firms, as a candidate attorney in 2006 and was admitted as an attorney of the High Court of South Africa in 2008. He is the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship.

Shengjie Yu (People's Republic of China) received his first law degree from Central China Normal University in Wuhan, China, in 2008. He interned at the Grandall Legal Group Hangzhou law firm in 2007. Yu is a recipient of a tuition fellowship from the University Center for International Studies and a Franklin West, Inc. housing fellowship.

Sergii Zheka (Ukraine) received his first law degree from the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Kiev, Ukraine, in 2008. Zheka was a member of the 2007 and 2008 Kyiv-Mohyla Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot teams. He is a recipient of a Franklin West, Inc. housing fellowship.

Qing Zou (People's Republic of China) received her first law degree from Guangdong University of Foreign Studies in 2006. She worked as a law clerk in Chang An courtroom in the People's Courthouse in Dongguan following graduation. Zou passed the national judiciary exam of China in 2007.

Elena Petraskova (Slovakia, part time) received her law degree in 1992 from Pavol Jozef Safarik University in Košice, Slovakia. She worked as an attorney at VSZ Ocel s.r.o. and VSZ a.s. Košice until 2000, when she began work at U. S. Steel Košice, s.r.o., where she is now assistant general counsel and is on assignment to United States Steel in Pittsburgh. Petraskova began her LL.M. studies as a part-time student in fall 2007, planning for completion in May 2009 while working full time in Pittsburgh.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

During the 2007–08 academic year, the Center for International Legal Education awarded fellowships totaling nearly \$50,000 to the following students for a variety of activities:

Mary Akhimien (J.D. '09): spring 2008 study at University College London in London, United Kingdom.

Robin Belinsky (J.D./GSPIA '09): 2008 summer internship at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law in Hamburg, Germany.

Laura Benson (J.D. '09): fall 2008 study at the University of Sydney in Sydney, Australia.

Nelson Berardinelli (J.D. '09): 2008 summer internship at the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights in Belgrade, Serbia.

Aviv Bliwas (J.D. '08): spring 2008 study at Temple University Beasley School of Law program in Tokyo, Japan.

Nicholas Botta (J.D. '09): summer 2008 study at the William & Mary Marshall-Wythe School of Law program at Fundacion Universitaria San Pablo in Madrid, Spain

Chan Braithwaite (J.D. '10): 2008 summer internship at Lawyers for Democracy in Belgrade, Serbia.

Lisl Brunner (J.D. '08): 2008 International Humanitarian Law Workshop hosted by Santa Clara University School of Law in Santa Clara, Calif.

Carrie Cecil (J.D. '10): 2008 summer internship at the Beiten Burkhardt Law Firm in Kiev, Ukraine.

Marc Coda (J.D. '10): summer 2008 study at the Indiana University School of Law program at the University of Zagreb School of Law in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Brittany Conkle (J.D. '10): summer 2008 study at the Howard University School of Law program at the University

of the Western Cape and interned at the South African Commission on Gender Equality in Cape Town, South Africa.

Timothy DeHaut (J.D. '09): fall 2008 conference presentation on LL.M. dissertation at the Mediators Institute of Ireland in Dublin, Ireland.

Sarah Drinkwater (J.D. '09): 2008 summer internship at the Forum for Women, Law, and Development in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Emily Fan (J.D. '10): 2008 summer internship at International Bridges to Justice in Beijing, China.

William Fisher (J.D. '10): summer 2008 study at the Indiana University School of Law program at the University of Zagreb School of Law in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Jonathan Hill (J.D. '09): spring 2008 study at Temple University Beasley School of Law program in Tokyo, Japan.

Derek Illar (J.D. '10): 2008 summer internship at Associazione Nazionale Cultura Educazione Internazionale and Goodwill Italia in Rome, Italy.

Matthew Karasic (J.D. '10): summer 2008 study at the Duquesne University School of Law program at the University College Dublin Faculty of Law in Dublin, Ireland, and Queen's University Belfast School of Law in Belfast, Ireland.

Eric Linge (J.D./M.B.A. '09): 2008 summer internship at the Ethiopian Ministry of Trade and Industry in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Grazia Mari (J.D. '10): 2008 summer internship at the law offices of John M. Tripidakis and Jennie Giannakopoulou in Athens, Greece.

Andres Miguel (J.D. '10): summer 2008 study at the William & Mary Marshall-Wythe School of Law program at Fundacion Universitaria San Pablo in Madrid, Spain.

Megan Melcher (J.D. '10): summer 2008 study at the University of North Carolina School of Law program at the University of Sydney Faculty of Law in Sydney, Australia.

Anjali Nair (J.D. '10): summer 2008 study at the Penn State Dickinson School of Law Capitals of Europe program in The Hague, Netherlands; Brussels, Belgium; Luxembourg; Strasbourg, France; and Vienna, Austria.

Myle Nguyen (J.D. '10): summer 2008 study at the DePaul University College of Law program at Universidad Nacional in San Jose, Costa Rica.

Bryan Oklin (J.D. '08): 2008 spring research on gender reform in Moroccan family law in Morocco.

Caitlin Price (J.D. '09): 2008 summer internship at the Legal Service of the European Commission in Brussels, Belgium.

James Quinn (J.D./GSPIA '09): 2008 summer research in public health organizations and legislation in Bangalore, India.

Jonathan Rhein (J.D. '09): 2008 summer internship at the Pagtinabangay Foundation in Ormoc City, Philippines.

Harold Smith (J.D. '10): 2008 summer internship at Magisters law firm in Moscow, Russia and Kiev, Ukraine.

Aleksandra Williams (J.D. '10): 2008 summer internship at the Beiten Burkhardt Law Firm in Kiev, Ukraine.

Desiree Williams (J.D. '10): 2008 summer internship at the Hong Kong Department of Justice Prosecutions Division in Hong Kong, China.

Other Student Activities

Jordan Austin (J.D. '10): summer 2008 internship at Heskia-Hacmun Law Firm in Tel Aviv, Israel.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES *continued*

Eli Baumwell (J.D. '09), **Robin Belinsky (J.D./GSPIA '09)**, and **Leslie Riley (J.D. '08)** participated in the 2008 Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C.

Meredith D. Bunnell (J.D. '08), **Elizabeth T. Hinkle (J.D. '09)**, **Esther D. Mosimann (J.D. '09)**, and **Melissa A. Pansiri (J.D. '08)** participated in the 2008 Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot court competition in Vienna, Austria.

Laura Bunting (J.D. '09): summer 2008 internship at Architects for Aid in London, United Kingdom.

Amanda Fisher (J.D. '10) received a Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship through the Center for Russian and East European Studies to study Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian. The fellowship covers tuition and a stipend for the 2008–09 academic year.

Richard Grubb (J.D. '10) studied during summer 2008 at the University of Miami School of Law program in London, England; Amsterdam, Netherlands; Paris, France; Italy; and Greece.

Alexander Howard (J.D. '09) studied during summer 2008 at the South Texas College of Law program in Valletta, Malta.

Esther Mosimann (J.D. '09) received a Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship through the European Union Center of Excellence, European Studies Center to study Italian. The fellowship covers tuition and a stipend for the 2008–09 academic year.

Caitlin Price (J.D. '09) received a Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship through the European Union Center of Excellence, European Studies Center

to study Arabic. The fellowship covers tuition and a stipend for the 2008–09 academic year.

Mark Sanofsky (J.D. '09) received a Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship through the Center for Latin American Studies to study Portuguese. The fellowship covers tuition and a stipend for the 2008–09 academic year.

Aleksandra Williams (J.D. '10) received a Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship through the Center for Russian and East European Studies to study Ukrainian. The fellowship covers tuition and a stipend for the 2008–09 academic year.

Elman H. Woodson (J.D. '10) studied during summer 2008 at the William & Mary Marshall-Wythe School of Law program at Fundacion Universitaria San Pablo in Madrid, Spain.

The LL.M. Class of 2008



FACULTY ACTIVITIES

Professor Ronald A. Brand traveled to Wuhan, China, September 9–20, 2007, where he delivered a talk on “Changing Competence for Private International Law in Europe” at the plenary session of the global forum on private international law, held at the 20th anniversary meeting of the Chinese Society of Private International Law, and spoke at the closing ceremonies of the meeting. He also delivered talks on “U.S. Law and Legal Education” at the Chinese Culture University in Taipei, Taiwan; “The Hague Convention on Choice of Court Agreements” to the Taiwan Society of Private International Law in Taipei; “U.S. Law and Legal Education” at China Three Gorges University School of Law in Yichang, China; and “Legal Education for Foreign Students in the United States” at the Wuhan University School of Law in Wuhan. On October 7–11, 2007, Brand traveled to Bahrain with University of Pittsburgh School of Law students J. Kate Drabecki (J.D. '08) and Katerina Ossenova (J.D. '08) to assist the University of Bahrain College of Law in selecting a team for the 2008 Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot competition and consult on the development of the international commercial law curriculum. Their work was under the auspices of the Commercial Law Development Program of the U.S.–Middle East Partnership Initiative, funded by the U.S. Department of State and administered by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Brand was elected a member of the executive committee of the American Branch of the International Law Association on October 26, 2007, at the annual meeting held at the International Law Weekend in New York, N.Y. He was also moderator and a speaker on a panel titled, “Developing International Private Law: Informing and Understanding Hard Law and Soft Law.” On November 2–4, 2007, Brand was an invited speaker at a conference in Düsseldorf, Germany, on Economic Law as an Economic Good: Its Rule Function and Its Tool Function in the Competition of Systems, where he spoke on “Competition in the Harmonization of Private Law.” On November 5–9, 2007, Brand and Professor Harry M. Flechtner



Professor Ronald Brand, his daughter, Megan, and Adolfo Céspedes Zavaleta (LL.M. '01) on the Inca Trail.

presented a 30-hour course on international commercial law and international business transactions to a group of U.S. Steel lawyers from Slovakia, Serbia, and the United States at the facilities of U.S. Steel Košice in Medzev, Slovakia. The program included coverage of the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG), the impact of price delivery terms in transnational contracts, export-import contract issues, financing with letters of credit, contracts with sovereign parties, legislation regarding corrupt business practices, and the application of public international law to transactions involving private parties. In December 2007, Oxford University Press published *Drafting Contracts Under the CISG*, edited by Flechtner, Brand, and Mark S. Walter, former assistant director of the Center for International Legal Education (CILE). The book is the first work of its kind to include specific examples of clauses to be used in contracts drafted to be governed by the CISG, providing a full set of sample terms and conditions for an international sales contract. The book is the fourth volume in the *CILE Studies* series.

On January 19–25, 2008, Brand traveled to Kiev, Ukraine, as part of the International Higher Education Support Program of the Open Society Institute (Soros Foundation) to serve as an Academic

Fellowship Program international resource fellow for the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy School of Law. While in Kiev, he advised the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy Faculty of Law on curricular development and consulted with faculty members who have received training overseas. He also met with Ukrainian LL.M. graduates of Pitt.

On February 3–10, 2008, Brand traveled to the University of Bahrain with Pitt third-year law students Drabecki and Ossenova to work with the University of Bahrain student team in preparation of oral arguments for the 2008 Vis moot to be held in March 2008 in Vienna, Austria. Brand's chapter “The Road to Vindabona: Preparing for the Moot” was published in *The Vis Book: A Participant's Guide to the Willem C. Vis International Arbitration Moot*, edited by Professor Janet Walker of Osgoode Hall Law School and published by JurisNet LLC.

On February 15, 2008, Brand spoke on “Consent and Reciprocity in the Application of Foreign and International Law” at the Duke University School of Law as part of the symposium on Public and Private Law in the Global Adjudication System, sponsored by the *Duke Journal of Comparative & International Law* and Duke's Center for International and Comparative Law. On March 12–21, 2008, Brand accompanied the Pitt team to the

FACULTY ACTIVITIES *continued*

Vis moot competition in Vienna. The Pitt team joined teams from Donetsk National University, the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy School of Law, and the National Taras Shevchenko University of Kyiv (Ukraine); the University of Belgrade (Serbia); the University of Bahrain; and the University of Prishtina (Kosovo) for early practice arguments and common support during the competition. On April 11–12, 2008, Brand participated in the Open Society Institute Law and Economics Disciplinary Conference for the Academic Fellowship Program in Tbilisi, Georgia, where he gave the closing presentation on “Teaching Methodology: What Do We Teach and How Do We Teach It?”

On May 26–27, 2008, Brand traveled to Kiev, Ukraine, as part of the International Higher Education Support Program of the Open Society Institute (Soros Foundation) to serve as an Academic Fellowship Program international resource fellow for the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy School of Law. On May 29–30, 2008, he participated in the general assembly meeting of the International Association of Law Schools in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The University of Pittsburgh School of Law is a charter member of the association. On June 21, 2008, Brand spoke on the U.S.-Peru Free Trade Agreement to audiences at the National University of Callao and the University of Piura campus in Lima, Peru. In the following days, he hiked the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu with his daughter, Megan, and Adolfo Céspedes Zavaleta (LL.M. '01) of Lima. On August 18, 2008, Brand spoke on “The 2005 Hague Convention on Choice of Court Agreements: Its History, Rules, Status, and Prospects” at the 73rd biennial conference of the International Law Association in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, as part of a panel titled “Toward World Judicial Cooperation Standards: Prospects for the Hague Convention on Choice of Court Agreements.”

Professor Douglas Branson, W. Edward Sell Professor of Business Law gave the keynote address on his most recent book, *No Seat at the Table: How Governance and Law Keep Women out of the Boardroom*, at the inaugural corporate governance confer-

ence at the University of Auckland Business School in New Zealand in August 2008.

Professor Teresa Brostoff traveled to Ghent University, Belgium, to teach English for Lawyers as a Fulbright senior specialist in September 2007. In January 2008, she was appointed to the Fulbright Senior Specialists Peer Review Committee for Law. In February 2008, Brostoff presented the English for Lawyers program at the University of Bahrain. In March 2008, she and Associate Professor Ann Sinsheimer were invited to speak at the American Bar Association Global Legal Skills Conference in Monterrey, Mexico. In July 2008, Brostoff taught English for Lawyers to a talented class of international lawyers at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. She and Sinsheimer co-presented a session on “Using Comparative Legal Principles to Teach International Students in U.S. Law” at the Legal Writing Institute biennial conference in July 2008.

Professor Vivian Curran's article, “Globalization, Legal Transnationalization, and Crimes Against Humanity: The Lipietz Case,” was published in the *American Journal of Comparative Law*. She also authored chapters on “A Comparative Perspective on the CISG” for the book *Drafting Contracts Under the CISG*, edited by Professor Ronald Brand; “The Pursuit of Law” in the book *Harmonizing Law in an Era of Globalization: Convergence, Divergence, and Resistance*, edited by Larry Backer; “Perspectives Actuelles de l'Enseignement du Droit aux États-Unis en Tant Que Reflet Oblique de la Méthodologie ‘Common-law’” in *Cahiers de Méthodologie Juridique*, edited by Jean-Louis Bergel; and “On the Shoulders of Schlesinger: The Common Core of European Private Law Project” in *Opening Up European Law*, edited by Mauro Bussani and Ugo Mattei. Curran also gave presentations on “The Internationalization of Law” as part of the Perlman roundtable at the University of Pittsburgh; “The Language of a Cosmopolitan Legal Education” for the Foundations of a Cosmopolitan Legal Education roundtable at the McGill University Faculty of Law in Montreal, Canada in September 2007; “La Sécurité Juridique à l'Ère de

la Mondialisation” for the International Association of Legal Methodology at the University of Sherbrooke in Quebec, Canada; “The Shoah, French Courts, and the Politics of Memory” at the Annual Holocaust Memorial Lecture at McGill University Faculty of Law, McGill Centre for Human Rights & Legal Pluralism, and the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre in Montreal, Canada in October 2007; “Human Issues in the Era of Globalization” at the inaugural Blanche Grosswald Lecture at Rutgers University School of Social Work in New Jersey; and “Le Droit de l'Environnement et les Droits de l'Homme: le Défi de l'Alien Tort Claims Act” at the Collège de France, in Paris in July 2007.

Professor Harry Flechtner completed “Funky Mussels, a Stolen Car, and Decrepit Used Shoes: Non-conforming Goods and Notice Thereof Under the United Nations Sales Convention (CISG)” for the *Boston University International Law Journal* (forthcoming). He completed a chapter titled “‘The CISG Song,’ the ‘Mootie Blues,’ and a Dedication to a CISG Entrepreneur” in the book *Sharing International Commercial Law Across National Boundaries: Festschrift for Albert H. Kritzer on the Occasion of His Eightieth Birthday*. Flechtner's chapter on “Conformity of Goods, Third Party Claims, and Buyer's Notice of Breach: Articles 35–44 of the CISG,” which he presented at a conference on The United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods: What Challenges for Turkish Sales Law? at Istanbul Bilgi University in Turkey in 2006, has been translated into Turkish and is forthcoming. He returned as coach of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law team in the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot along with Professor Ronald Brand. Flechtner repeated his performance of his international law-related songs at the opening night of the moot in what is becoming a tradition at the competition. In April 2008, Flechtner was the keynote speaker at the CISG conference at the Touro Law Center in Islip, N.Y. He also served as moderator of the event Getting on Top of International Commercial Law and Arbitration: A Roundtable Discussion, hosted by the Center for International

Continued on page 24

FACULTY ACTIVITIES *continued*

Legal Education at Pitt in March 2008. Flechtner and Brand presented a 30-hour course on international commercial law and international business transactions to a group of U.S. Steel lawyers from Slovakia, Serbia, and the United States at the facilities of U.S. Steel Košice in Medzev, Slovakia, in November 2007. In July 2008, Flechtner recorded two video lectures on the United Nations Sales Convention for a new project called the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law. The project is scheduled to go online (free to the public) in October and is available at www.un.org/law/AVLPilotproject.

Professor Lawrence A. Frolik gave a series of lectures at several universities in Japan in September 2007. He was the featured speaker at the Congress of the Japanese American Society for Legal Studies at Kobe University on the topic of “The United States Approach to Economic Assistance to the Elderly”; gave a talk at the University of Tokyo sponsored by the Faculty of Law on “Solving the ‘Financial Crisis’ in the American Social Security Program”; presented a talk on “United States Approaches to Providing Income for the Elderly” at the Waseda University Institute of Comparative Law in Tokyo; and participated in a workshop on the use of alternative dispute resolution in elder law at the University of Tsukuba Law School in Tokyo.

Associate Professor Haider Ala Hamoudi finished his dissertation, “Toward a Modern Understanding of the Sharia,” for the doctoral degree of juridical science from Columbia Law School in May 2008. He published his book *Howling in Mesopotamia*, describing his time in post-Saddam Hussein Iraq. Hamoudi completed “Baghdad Booksellers, Basra Carpet Merchants, and the Law of God and Man: Legal Pluralism and the Contemporary Muslim Experience” for the *Berkeley Journal of Middle Eastern and Islamic Law*; “The Muezzin’s Call and the Dow Jones Bell: On the Necessity of Realism in the Study of Islamic Law” for the *American Journal of Comparative Law*; and “You Say You Want a Revolution: Deviationist Doctrine, Interpretive Communities, and the Origins

of Islamic Finance” for the *Virginia Journal of International Law*. Hamoudi completed six articles for JURIST, the University of Pittsburgh School of Law online legal news and research resource, which can be viewed at jurist.law.pitt.edu/forum, as well as the articles “Legal Lip Service” for Forbes.com and “The Economic Rights of Displaced Iraqis, Under Iraqi Law” for the *International Law Students Association Quarterly* in March 2008. Hamoudi started and regularly updates his blog, Islamic Law in Our Times, which can be found at muslimlawprof.org. He presented at Yale University in December 2007 on “Liberalism and Shi’i Islam”; at the Asian affairs section of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York in January 2008 on “Islamic Finance: A View from the Mosque”; at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York special event in January 2008 on “Fatawa in Shi’i Islam”; at the University of Pittsburgh Department of Religious Studies in February 2008 on “A Comparison of Shi’i and Sunni Approaches to Religious Authority in Contemporary Islam”; and at the University of Cincinnati College of Law in April 2008 on “Commerce Among Merchants in Shi’i Iraq.” In addition to serving as a member of the executive committee of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Islamic Law, Hamoudi served as host for the participation of the Iraqi team in the 2008 Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition.

Professor Anthony C. Infanti served as chair of the “Law, Society, and Taxation VIII: Culture, Family, and Taxes” panel at the Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany, in July 2007 at the annual meeting of the Law and Society Association, where he also presented his paper “Tax Equity.” He presented the same paper at the 2007 meeting of the Canadian Law and Economics Association at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law in September 2007. Infanti participated in a roundtable discussion titled “Same-sex Tax Issues in Transnational Perspective: United States and Canada” at the 2008 joint meeting of the Law and Society Association and the Canadian Law and Society Association in

Montreal, Canada, in May 2008. He completed a book review of *Havens in the Storm: The Struggle for Global Tax Regulation* for the September 2008 issue of the *Law & Society Review*.

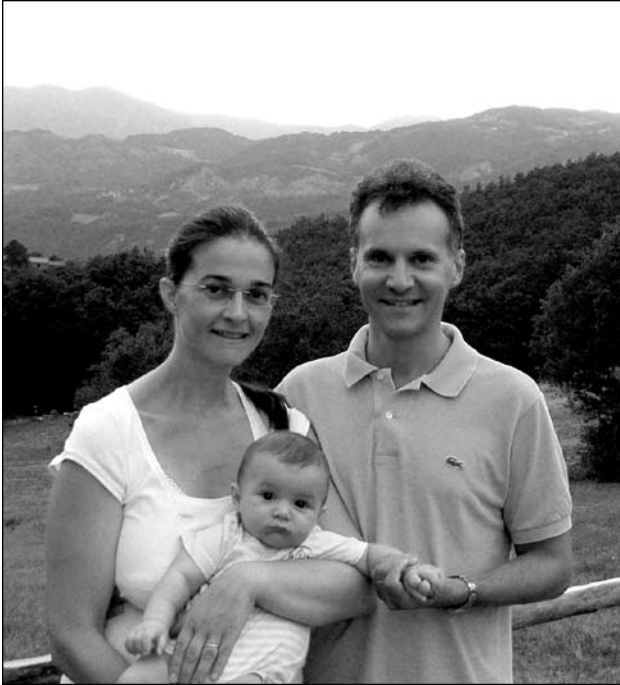
Professor Janice Mueller gave presentations on “The Evolution of India’s Patent Regime: Implications for Public Health and Pharmaceutical Innovation” to faculty and students at the University of Washington School of Law in October 2007 and to faculty and students at the Seattle University School of Law in April 2008. She chaired the annual meeting of the expert advisory committee on intellectual property for the international nonprofit organization Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research in Rome, Italy, in August 2008.

Associate Professor Ann Sinsheimer and Professor Teresa Brostoff were invited to speak at the American Bar Association Global Legal Skills Conference in Monterrey, Mexico, in February 2008. In July 2008, Sinsheimer taught English for Lawyers to a talented class of international lawyers at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. She and Brostoff co-presented a session on “Using Comparative Legal Principles to Teach International Students in U.S. Law” at the Legal Writing Institute biennial conference in July 2008.

Professor George Taylor presented a paper titled “The Displacement of Reason” and participated at the conference on philosophy and social sciences at the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic in Prague in May 2008.

Professor Rhonda Wasserman attended the initial meeting of the advisory board of a European Commission-funded study by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law (BIICL). The study, titled “The Effect in the European Community of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters: Recognition, Res Judicata, and Abuse of Process,” also is connected with Justine Stefanelli (J.D. ’05), who works on the project as a research fellow for BIICL.

ALUMNI NEWS



Marco Gardini (LL.M. '97) and his wife Francesca with their newborn son, Giovanni.



Luljeta Plakolli-Kasumi (LL.M. '06) with son Andi.



Leonardo J. (LL.M. '05) and wife Claudia Cortes gave birth to a baby daughter, Isabella.



Felix Mehler (LL.M. '02) with daughter Elizabeth, and newborn son Nicholas.



Anita Kant (LL.M. '06, J.D. '08) husband Tapin with son Simran.



Jurgen (LL.M. '03) and Paula Lovon Strobach, with son Jurgen.



Tatiana Selezneva (LL.M. '04) with newborn daughter Ariana Maria.

ALUMNI NEWS *continued*

Jaime Favela Ayala (LL.M. '99) accepted a position as vice president and general counsel of Flow Business in Mexico, a division of GE Capital Solutions, in the fall of 2007.

Daniela Brito (LL.M. '96) accepted an offer from Nike Inc. to be senior legal counsel in the global franchising department.

Adolfo Céspedes Zavaleta (LL.M. '01) hosted Professor Ronald A. Brand for lectures on the Peruvian Free Trade Agreement and accompanied Brand on a four-day hike on the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu.

Leonardo J. Cortes (LL.M. '05) founded Consultores Corporativos as a private law firm. He and his wife, Claudia, welcomed baby Isabella on July 5, 2008.

Chi Lieu Dang (LL.M. '08) joined Baker & McKenzie in Vietnam as a mergers and acquisitions lawyer.

Eva Col Debella (LL.M. '03) and her husband, David, had their second child, a girl named Anna, on January 15, 2008.

Daniela Ernlund (LL.M. '97) published her article "Working with Precedents to Develop the Rule of the Brazilian Commercial Law in a Worldwide Scenario" for the 2007 LL.M. roundtable held by the Center for International Legal Education in the *Journal for the Lawyers of Paraná State* in 2008.

Daniil Fedorchuk (LL.M. '01) has joined Beiten Burkhardt Law Firm in Kiev, Ukraine. While he is leaving his faculty position at Donetsk National University, he will begin teaching in spring 2009 at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy School of Law.

Marco Gardini (LL.M. '97) and his wife, Francesca, brought Giovanni into the world on May 16, 2008. This is their first child.

Claudia Garman (J.D. '08) accepted a position as a consultant (in the role of junior program assistant) at German Technical Cooperation in Brussels, Belgium, following the completion of her LL.M. with honors from Leiden University in the Netherlands.

Jeanette Hahn (J.D. '06) accepted a position at Booz Allen Hamilton in the diplomacy and international development market group as a procurement specialist. Her current assignment has her working in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Anita Kant (LL.M. '06, J.D. '08) and her husband, Tapin, welcomed their first child, a boy named Simran, on May 14, 2008.

Amelia (Kuschel) Knollman (LL.M. '08) and her husband Friedrich gave birth to their first child, a baby girl named Helena Sophie Luise, on March 13, 2008.

Krista Krahn (J.D. '07) accepted a position with Fish & Richardson P.C. law firm in patent law in Minneapolis, Minn.

Felix Mehler (LL.M. '02, J.D. '08) and his wife, Cathy, had their second child, a boy named Nicholas, on June 16, 2008.

Athanasios Mihalakas (J.D. '01) accepted a position at the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission in Washington, D.C.

Maryam Nihayath (LL.M. '08) was appointed as the head of the investigation and prosecution section of the customs department in the Maldives.

Alejandro Osuna González (LL.M. '98) became head of the J.D. program (Licenciatura en Derecho) at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Tijuana, Mexico, in June 2007. In the summer of 2007, he taught international sales law at the Universidad de Barcelona Law School. He and his wife, Olga, are expecting their second son, Juan Pablo, this fall.

David Pawlak (J.D. '96) and his wife, Biljana, welcomed their second son, Luke Daniel, on July 21, 2008.

Fernanda Pittelli (LL.M. '07) accepted as position as an lawyer for BRENCO, Brazilian Renewable Energy Company in São Paulo, Brazil.

Luljeta Plakolli-Kasumi (LL.M. '06) joined the faculty of the University of Pristina as an assistant professor of civil procedure law in October 2007. She joined the BearingPoint team as an intellectual property law trainer in 2008. Her first book on trademark protection and enforcement was published in April 2008. Plakolli-Kasumi and her husband, Ahmet, welcomed their first child, a boy named Andi, on May 29, 2008.

Georgia Post (LL.M. '99) has moved to the compliance department of Deutsche Bank in Frankfurt, Germany.

Jennifer Rellis (J.D. '06) finished her clerkship with the Honorable Lawrence F. Stengel of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and accepted a position as a litigation associate in the Philadelphia office of Dechert LLP.

Tatiana Selezneva (LL.M. '04) accepted a position as international legal consultant for Polimaster Inc. in Washington, D.C. She and her husband, Arif A. Mamedov,

welcomed their first child, Ariana Maria, on July 10, 2008. Tatiana published her article "Innovative Legal Education and its Role in Developing the State Based on the Rule of Law," which was written for the January 2007 CILE LL.M. Roundtable, in the *Journal of Legal Education* in March 2008.

Elizabeth Shackelford (J.D. '06) left Covington & Burling LLP to take on an associate role as part of the foreign affairs business team at Booz Allen Hamilton.

I-Wen Shyur (LL.M. '06) accepted a position as an associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Taiwan.

Justine Stefanelli (J.D. '05) has been codirector for the British Institute of International and Comparative Law on the Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship project, which has been led by former Attorney General Lord Peter Goldsmith and forms part of a wider review of Governance in Britain conducted by the United Kingdom's Ministry of Justice.

Jurgen Strobach (LL.M. '03) has joined the Fernandez-Davila & Bueno law firm in Lima, Peru, as a corporate attorney. He and his wife, Paula Lovon, welcomed Jurgen on May 18, 2008.

Monica A. Stump (J.D. '02) moved to Montgomery, Ala., and accepted a position as a career law clerk to the Honorable Wallace Capel Jr., U.S. magistrate judge in the Middle District of Alabama. She now serves as an adjunct professor in criminal procedure at Thomas Goode Jones School of Law.

Bujar Taho (LL.M. '07) accepted a position as the national capacity development officer for the United Nations Development Program on the Empowering the Vulnerable Minority Communities of Albania project in Tirana, Albania.

Neil Boyden Tanner (J.D. '97) serves on the Extended Bureau of the Association Internationale des Jeunes Avocats and is president of the British-American Business Council and secretary of the Japan America Society of Greater Philadelphia.

Lyubomir P. Zabov (LL.M. '07) accepted a position as senior tax consultant at Deloitte Tax LLP. He is working in Brussels, Belgium, and is scheduled to transfer back to the New York, N.Y., office later in 2008.

Marko Zivanov (LL.M. '08) and his wife, Natasa, had their second child, a boy named Matei, on February 24, 2008.



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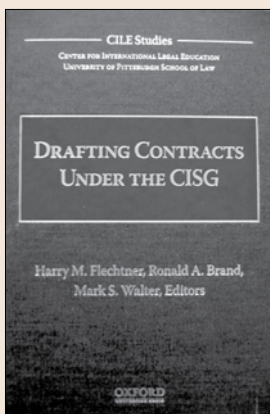


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