Globalization Conference

On November 13–14, 2003, the School of Law’s Center for Interdisciplinary Studies and the Whitney R. Harris Institute for Global Legal Studies, along with the Department of Political Science in Arts & Sciences, will present a conference titled Globalization, the State, and Society as part of the University’s yearlong Sesquicentennial celebration. Four interdisciplinary panels will focus on global governance and the state; globalization and labor; globalization and migration; and globalization and social welfare.

“The conference explores issues and debates over the relationship between globalization and sovereignty, including changing relationships in legal, economic, social, and political processes,” says conference co-organizer John Drobak, the George Alexander Madill Professor of Law and director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies.

Conference co-organizer Andy Sobel, associate professor of political science, notes, “Globalization connects polities, markets, labor forces, communities, and cultures in domestic and international arenas. The connections promoting globalization can blur the boundaries of nation-states and challenge the policy autonomy of national governments. Opportunity and peril accompany these changes, which spawns debate about the changing role of markets and states; the risks individuals, firms, and societies face in this changing state of affairs; and whether and how those risks can be managed.”

Conference participants include Howard F. Chang, University of Pennsylvania Law School; Amy Chua, Yale Law School; Barry Eichengreen, University of California at Berkeley; James C. Hathaway, University of Michigan Law School; Evelyne Huber, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Stephen H. Legomsky, Washington University School of Law in St. Louis; Margaret Levi, University of Washington; Philip Martin, University of California at Davis; Kathleen Newland, Migration Policy Institute; Kevin H. O’Rourke, Trinity College, Ireland; John Ruggie, Harvard University; Saskia Sassen, University of Chicago and London School of Economics; David Soskice, Duke University; and John D. Stephens, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Joseph Stiglitz, Columbia University economist and Nobel prize-winner in economics, also has been invited to attend. Papers from the conference will be compiled into an edited volume.

Mental Health and the Law

In conjunction with the School of Law’s Journal of Law and Policy and Center for Interdisciplinary Studies; the School of Medicine; the George Warren Brown School of Social Work; and the Department of Psychology in Arts & Sciences, the Clinical Education Program will host a conference titled Justice, Ethics, and Interdisciplinary Teaching and Practice on March 18–19, 2004. Building on a 2003 conference held at the School of Law, this conference will focus on the intersections of mental health and the law.

James Ellis, professor of law, University of New Mexico, will present the keynote address. Last year Ellis successfully argued Atkins v. Virginia, in which the Supreme Court of the United States held that executing people with mental retardation violates the Eighth Amendment prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment. Among his many accolades, Ellis was named the National Law Journal 2002 Lawyer of the Year.

Conference coordinator Karen Tokarz, professor of law and director of clinical education, says, “This con-
ference, like the 2003 conference, will examine the goals of collaborative teaching and practice enterprises, how best to structure these efforts, and the potential impact on each discipline’s ethical obligations.”

The conference is designed for those involved in or considering the development of interdisciplinary teaching or practice ventures. Faculty and practitioners from law, education, medicine, philosophy, psychology, and social work, as well as members of the community, are invited to attend.

This conference will combine with the law school’s fourth annual Access to Equal Justice Colloquium that seeks to develop university/community collaborations to improve access to justice in the region.

Other presenters include Susan Adams, Department of Counselor Education, Delta State University; Lynda E. Frost, San Antonio, Texas, attorney; Holly Hills, Department of Mental Health Law & Policy, University of South Florida; Matthew Howard, Michael Vaughn, and James Herbert Williams, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis; Arlene Kanter, Syracuse University College of Law; Michael Perlin, New York Law School; Richard Redding, Law & Psychology Program, Villanova School of Law; Adrienne E. Volenik, Mental Disabilities Law Clinic, University of Richmond; Wenona Y. Whitfield, Southern Illinois University Law School; and Robin F. Wilson, University of South Carolina School of Law.

Bankruptcy Symposium


“Bankruptcy and corporate reorganization are back, implicating a host of issues concerning the goals of current bankruptcy law, the prospect of federal government bailouts, the fiduciary duties of directors and officers, and the repercussions for employee benefit plans,” says conference organizer Troy Paredes, associate professor of law. “How policy is shaped to address these issues not only impacts corporate accountability and performance, but also raises concerns about fairness and equity.”

Elizabeth Warren, the Leo Gottlieb Professor of Law at Harvard University and an expert on bankruptcy and commercial law, will deliver the Donald P. Gallop Keynote Address. Warren co-authored As We Forgive Our Debtors: Bankruptcy in America; The Fragile Middle Class: Americans in Debt; The Law of Debtors and Creditors; and Commercial Law: A Systems Approach. She is a former adviser to the National Bankruptcy Review Commission and second vice president of the American Law Institute.

Three additional conferences are being planned: International Art Law in spring 2004, Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law in spring 2004, and The Rule of Law in the 2004–05 academic year. More information and registration materials on all the School’s conferences will be posted at law.wustl.edu as they become available. Videos of completed conferences also can be viewed through the Web site.