INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGES AND STUDY ABROAD

In 1998 a special law school committee chaired by Professor Clark Cunningham developed an innovative program that has greatly expanded opportunities both for Washington University law students to study abroad for a semester and for foreign law students to study at Washington University. These programs enable students to learn foreign law, gain comparative insights, and challenge fundamental premises of U.S. law. But they do much more. They allow students to experience a foreign culture, understand the workings of a foreign university, and forge lifelong friendships and professional ties.

Washington University, in contrast, has created exchange programs with leading foreign law schools under which our law students take regular courses in those schools, thus studying under the leading scholars of those countries side-by-side with foreign law students. Students receive full credit at their home law schools for courses taken while on exchange, pay the same tuition as if in residence under reciprocal tuition agreements, and remain eligible for scholarships and other financial aid. We have developed exchanges mainly with those foreign law schools that offer courses in English and that, in most cases, do not have exchange agreements with other U.S. law schools. Before approval by the School of Law, Professor Cunningham personally visited each of the English-language foreign law schools to learn more about the instruction and to clarify the arrangements.

As of August 2001, Washington University School of Law has exchange agreements in place with each of the seven foreign law schools listed below. Unless otherwise indicated, all courses at the foreign law school are in English. Students must still submit individual applications, which are reviewed by the Committee on Foreign Study. The committee makes recommendations to the full faculty. If approved by the faculty, student applications are then submitted to the American Bar Association for final approval.

- Utrecht University, Utrecht, the Netherlands.

Utrecht University has a history reaching back to the 7th century. Six Nobel prize winners have been associated with Utrecht, which has the largest teaching staff of all the Dutch universities. Because Utrecht is an international university serving the entire European community, a large number of law courses are offered in English. The Netherlands Institute of Human Rights is based at Utrecht. During the 2000-01
Inns of Court School of Law, London, United Kingdom. This law school was founded by the four Inns of Court, where English law originated in the Middle Ages. It is the leading institution authorized by the English Bar to prepare law graduates of English universities to become barristers. The school has designed a course specifically for our students, "Introduction to the English Legal Profession," that includes visits to the Royal Courts of Justice and to chambers in the Inns of Court where barristers practice law. After completion of this course, students enroll in advanced practice courses that apply specific subjects, like international trade and competition law of the European Community, to simulated cases. The first two Washington University students studied at the Inns of Court in spring 2001.

Monash University Faculty of Law, Melbourne, Australia. Monash, the largest university in Australia, has more than 2,000 law students. This exchange is built around the strong clinical programs of both Monash and Washington University. Students from each law school enroll in clinical courses in the other school, the first such program to be developed by an American law school. During spring 2001, one Monash student studied at Washington University and two Washington University students went to Monash.

National Law School of India, Bangalore, India. The most prestigious law school in India, the National Law School admits only 60 students per year. Its innovative five-year curriculum combines social science and law courses with three terms of clinical education before graduation. In 1999, their students won both of the major international law school competitions: the Jessup International Moot Court and the International Client Counseling Competition. One student from the National Law School studied at Washington University in spring 2001.

National University of Singapore. The leading law school in Southeast Asia, the Faculty of Law at the National University of Singapore hosts the internationally famous Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law and the Centre for Commercial Law Studies. In the 1999–2000 academic year, 136 of its 750 law students came from 17 foreign countries, drawing from Europe, North America, Africa, Asia, and Australia. This law school prides itself on having the best record in the world in the Jessup International Moot Court Competition. Student exchanges began in fall 2001, with one student going each way.

Kobe University Graduate School of Law, Japan. This is our oldest exchange program, closely linked to the joint degree program in East Asian studies. For this program, Japanese language proficiency is required.

Professor Cunningham chairs the law school’s Committee on Foreign Study. The student exchange program is administered by Assistant Dean Michele Shoresman. For more information, visit the School of Law’s Web site at http://law.wustl.edu, and click on “Faculty and Curriculum” and then “Student Exchange Programs.”