Law School Forges Partnerships with Sorbonne, Cergy-Pontoise

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW has signed agreements with two French law schools, the University of Paris I–Pantheon-Sorbonne Law School and the law school of Cergy-Pontoise.

The new academic partnerships build upon the connections of Leila Nadya Sadat, the Henry H. Oberschelp Professor of Law and director of the Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute. Sadat has taught and studied at the Sorbonne and recently served as the Alexis de Tocqueville Distinguished Fulbright Chair at the University of Cergy-Pontoise. Having earned a diplôme d'études approfondies (DEA) from the Sorbonne, she also has practiced international business law in Paris and clerked for both of France’s supreme courts.

“The Sorbonne is a world-famous university housing one of France’s elite law schools,” Sadat says. “Its faculty and alumni are all connected to the legal and academic community in Paris and throughout the European Union.”

“Having a degree from the Sorbonne will, in a meaningful way, advance our students’ international career options, and having high-quality students in our Washington University classes from both the Sorbonne and the newly established,
Professor Sadat Named ICC Special Adviser on Crimes Against Humanity

**Sidebar**

*Professor Leila Nadya Sadat recently served as the Alexis de Tocqueville Distinguished Fulbright Chair at the University of Cergy-Pontoise.*
is determined in the judgment phase that the claim construction was not sufficient, it would not be helpful to have a lawyer pursue interlocutory review,” she said. “Sometimes when it gets to the summary judgment stage, that’s where I make my determination that something in the claim construction was incorrect.”

Norman stressed the importance of consistent enforcement of patent rules. “If a party doesn’t fulfill its obligations, then what do you do? We have to file a motion with the court to get more details,” he said. “While that’s not bad on occasion, there have been courts where the rules have not been enforced,” leading to inefficiency.

Another critical issue that Rader discussed was “materiality.” He defined materiality in a novel fashion, equating the materiality of a case with the size of its market impact rather than taking the more traditional position of defining the materiality of an issue with reference to its legal relevance in a particular cause of action.

CHIEF JUDGE RANDALL R. RADER

“Law should facilitate rather than frustrate the market.”

CHIEF JUDGE RANDALL R. RADER
Recent Events

ICC at 10 Symposium

More than 250 academics and other guests celebrated the 10th anniversary of the International Criminal Court (ICC) at a two-day symposium. Hosted by the Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute, the event included an art installation dedicated to the memory of victims of atrocity crimes, personal reflections in honor of Whitney R. Harris’s 100th birthday, and high-profile speakers. (right) An interactive art piece by Monika Weiss, Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, Washington University (below, from left) H.E. Judge Joyce Aluoch, ICC Trial Chamber; H.E. Judge Hans-Peter Kaul, ICC; H.E. Ambassador Stephen Rapp; and H.E. Ambassador Hans Corell, at podium, and Professor Leila Nadya Sadat, right

Workshops & Conferences

Renowned scholars gathered for the Washington University First Amendment Roundtable to discuss pressing challenges created by expressive freedom—impaired political debate, free expression in a digital age, and weakened rights of groups. (right) Professors John Inazu, left, Greg Magarian, center, and Neil Richards

(far left) Washington University School of Law and National Taiwan University hosted an Inter-School Graduate Student Workshop, where international graduate students showcased their works in progress. (left) Professor David Law, right, with a workshop presenter
The Center on Law, Innovation and Economic Growth (CLIEG) hosted the third annual Workshop on International and Comparative Law, featuring original research. Topics ranged from women’s human rights in Iran to financial compensation for victims of disasters. (above left) Gerrit De Geest, professor of law and CLIEG director, left, with Michael Faure, Maastricht University (above right) Alessio Bartolacelli, University of Trento (left) Vert Verhulp, University of Amsterdam

Invisible Labor Colloquium

(far left) Arlie Hochschild, author of The Outsourced Life: Intimate Life in Market Times, kicked off the Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Work and Social Capital’s (CIS) Invisible Labor Colloquium. More than 20 scholars from around the world gathered to examine the many forms of labor that remain hidden from public view because they are not conceptualized as “work.”

(left) Marion Crain, vice provost, Wiley B. Rutledge Professor of Law, and CIS director

(above) Former Washington University law professor and current National Council member R.H. “Dick” Helmholz, left, with Professor David Konig. Helmholz delivered the plenary lecture at the American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting.

(left) Winifred Poster, Brown School, Washington University

(a) Marion Crain, vice provost, Wiley B. Rutledge Professor of Law, and CIS director

(above) Various images of the workshop participants and speakers.
Assistant Dean Cramer Publishes Book on Drafting Cross-Border Contracts

PETER K. CRAMER, assistant dean of graduate programs, has published a new legal writing textbook, Drafting Contracts in Legal English (Aspen Publishers, 2013). Co-authored with Professor Cynthia M. Adams, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis School of Law, the textbook is designed for international law students and practitioners.

Applicable for both classroom and self-study, the textbook adopts a concise approach that is purposely devoid of U.S. colloquialisms and legalese expressions. The book’s 120 authentic contracts offer students multiple examples of similar provisions for linguistic/legal comparison. “With its database and guided exercises, the book provides the kind of training a drafter may receive when starting a position at a law firm,” Cramer says.

“Drafters can develop a critical analysis of provisions and avoid a ‘cut-and-paste’ approach often used by novice or non-native drafters,” he adds. “Drafters can also develop a sense of the idiomatic use of contract phrases, such as ‘commercially reasonable efforts’ versus ‘commercially sensible attempts,’ the latter often the result of an unsuccessful one-to-one dictionary translation.”

Cramer, who studied law in Germany and the United States, is also a linguist and language teacher. He has presented widely on international business and legal topics. In his role as assistant dean, he administers the law school’s master of laws (LLM) programs in intellectual property/technology law and in U.S. law for foreign lawyers. He also recently developed the first online Legal English class at a leading U.S. law school, in conjunction with @WashULaw, the law school’s online LLM degree in U.S. law.

SIDEBAR

DOGGIE DE-STRESSOR

The Animal Law Society (ALS) and Student Bar Association invited law students to bring their dogs to the first-ever “Doggie De-Stressor Study Break.” About a dozen canine friends and several dozen students joined in the event during finals week. (right) Charli Steed, ALS past president and current vice president, bonds with Harley, a beagle-lab mix. (above) Jennifer Muller, left, and Mollie Stemper share a canine cuddle.
Law Students Take High Honors in National, Regional Competitions

MORE THAN 50 Washington University students represented the law school in nearly a dozen competitions in the 2012–13 academic year, racking up five top-place finishes and dozens of other accolades. Students also competed in law-school-sponsored competitions.

“Lawyering skills competitions help students acquire important courtroom skills while gaining appreciation for the extensive preparation needed for trials or appeals,” notes Michael Koby, professor of practice and director of the Trial and Advocacy Program. “The lawyering skills competitions also encourage development of exemplary skills in brief writing and oral advocacy.”

Highlights for the 2012–13 season include:

Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court Team, first place, Southern Super Regional Competition; octafinalists, international rounds—top 4 nationwide out of 120 competitors and top 16 worldwide out of nearly 600 teams from more than 100 countries;

Trial Team
• First place, Third Annual Missouri Attorney General’s Cup Competition;
• Regional 9 champions, National Trial Competition—more than 180 law schools competed in 14 regions;
• First and second places in Regionals, American Association of Student Advocacy Competition. The competition involved 16 teams from nine law schools;
• Competitors, National Institute for Trial Advocacy Tournament of Champions (TOC). The invitational competition is limited to the 16 law schools with the most successful competition records over the preceding three years;

National Appellate Advocacy Team, regional finalists and semifinalists, National Appellate Advocacy Competition. Team members also earned Best Brief and Best Advocate;

Representation in Mediation Team, regional finalists and second-place winners, Representation in Mediation Competition; and

William E. McGee Civil Rights Moot Court Team, second and fifth places in a field of more than 40 teams, William E. McGee Civil Rights Moot Court Competition. Team members also won Honorable Mention for Top Speaker.

INTERNATIONAL TAXATION COLLOQUIUM

The Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute recently hosted a colloquium on “Conceptualizing a New Institutional Framework for International Taxation.” The panel discussion covered international tax regimes and how to best move toward increased international tax cooperation. Scholars and experts participating included, from left: Adam Rosenzweig, Washington University School of Law; Allison Christians, McGill University Faculty of Law; Itai Grinberg, Georgetown University Law Center; Michael Lennard, UN Financing for Development Office; Diane Ring, Boston College Law School; and Lee Sheppard, Tax Notes.
Washington University School of Law saluted its graduates and their families at commencement on May 17, 2013. JD candidates Adrienne Johnson, left, and Ying Jiang join in singing the national anthem. Some 280 JDs, 81 LLMs, one JSD, and one MJS made up the May 2013 list of graduates. Gregory A. Hewett, JD ’94, a member of the law school’s National Council, offered the Welcome to the Legal Profession, and JD candidate Zachary Greenberg served as the Voice of the Class. For more information and photos, visit: law.wustl.edu/commencement.