University–Brookings Alliance to Benefit Law School

Under a new academic partnership, the Brookings Institution and Washington University will offer joint programs in Washington, D.C., ranging from internships to lectures to other educational and research activities.

“The Brookings Institution is a premier organization, and we at the University value the many opportunities that will come to our students and faculty through the development of this partnership,” Washington University Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton says. “Washington University’s faculty and students and the distinguished scholars at the Brookings Institution will have many opportunities to collaborate both in D.C. and in St. Louis.”

The arrangement will benefit the law school, specifically, by enabling the school to enhance its programs in Washington, D.C., which include its long-standing Congressional and Administrative Law Program. The law school also will have access to the new joint programming, expanded student opportunities for internships throughout the year, a new speakers series and scholar-in-residence exchange program, and faculty collaboration on research projects.

Kent Syverud, dean and the Ethan A.H. Shepley University Professor, has taken a leading role in developing University opportunities in Washington, D.C., which include its long-standing Congressional and Administrative Law Program. The law school also will have access to the new joint programming, expanded student opportunities for internships throughout the year, a new speakers series and scholar-in-residence exchange program, and faculty collaboration on research projects.

Kent Syverud, dean and the Ethan A.H. Shepley University Professor, has taken a leading role in developing University opportunities in Washington, D.C., and will be serving as the new associate vice chancellor of Washington, D.C., programs, in addition to his ongoing role as dean and professor.

“The new alliance with the Brookings Institution offers the law school an exceptional opportunity to build on our existing, strong D.C. programs,” Syverud said. “It will allow us to expand our presence in Washington, a city of particularly strong interest to our students, faculty, and alumni.”
Hollander-Blumoff, Rosenzweig Named Treiman Fellows

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS Rebecca Hollander-Blumoff and Adam Rosenzweig are serving as Treiman Fellows in 2008–09. The fellowship, which supports faculty scholarship, is named in memory of Israel Treiman, an alumnus, a faculty member, and a longtime supporter of the law school.

Hollander-Blumoff focuses her research and teaching on the intersection of law and psychology in the context of dispute resolution. Recent projects include her use of empirical research both to analyze how people form subjective judgments of fairness in negotiation and to argue that fairness of process in legal negotiation is critically important. Her scholarship includes articles published in Law & Social Inquiry and Marquette Law Review. Hollander-Blumoff also is the organizer of an ongoing series of workshops for junior faculty at Midwestern law schools to present their works-in-progress.

Rosenzweig specializes in tax law and policy. His current research focuses on the phenomenon of tax havens, and their persistence in the face of significant and continued criticism, as well as the taxation of private investment funds. The seventh edition of his co-authored book, Problems and Materials in Federal Income Taxation, was published by Aspen in 2008. He also has recently published or has articles forthcoming in ILSA Journal of International and Comparative Law, Northwestern University Law Review, Northwestern Journal of International Law and Business, SMU Law Review, and Virginia Tax Review.

Brookings Institution

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The Brookings Institution is a nonprofit, public policy organization that conducts high-quality, independent research and provides innovative, practical policy recommendations. Brookings President Strobe Talbott, who served as the law school’s 2008–09 Tyrrell Williams lecturer, said of the new academic partnership: “I am extremely pleased that we will be pursuing areas of common interest and opportunities for collaboration in research, policy studies, and academic activities.”

Other highlights of the University–Brookings academic partnership include the Olin Business School assuming management of Brookings’ executive education activities and the creation of a jointly funded venture capital fund to support programs and initiatives.

For more information on the new academic partnership, visit news-info.wustl.edu/news/page/normal/13992.html.

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KENT SYVERUD
Students Continue Winning Streak in Competitions

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW’S lawyering skills teams had another outstanding year.

The National Moot Court Team won the William E. McGee National Civil Rights Moot Court Competition. Additionally, the team won the Midwest Regional of the ABA’s National Appellate Advocacy Competition. In both competitions, students received oral advocacy awards.

The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Team won the Southwest Super-Regional and went on to place 19th in the 106-team Shearman & Sterling International rounds. The team made it to the advanced rounds of the international competition, where it was narrowly defeated by the four-time world champion, the National University of Singapore. Team members also received various recognitions for written arguments and oral advocacy at both the super-regional and international rounds.

The ABA Representation in Mediation Team won second place at the National Competition, after a narrow defeat of one point to the University of Richmond. On the way to the nationals, the team had placed first among 12 teams in the regionals.

In other success stories:
- The Niagara International Law Moot Court Team placed third out of 19 teams and advanced to the semifinals of the competition. One team member also received the Top Oralist award.
- The Trial Team won first place at the Regional Qualifying Tournament of the ABA/American College of Trial Lawyers National Trial Competition (NTC). Trial Team members also placed fourth in the Stanford Competition.
- The National Environmental Moot Court Competition Team progressed through three preliminary rounds and advanced to the quarterfinals at Pace University’s competition. Team members won Best Oralist in all three preliminary rounds.
- The Saul Lefkowitz Team came in third in the regionals, and members won awards for advocacy and their brief.
- The Client Counseling Team and the Giles Rich Team advanced to the semifinals in their regional competitions.

Michael Koby, director of the Trial and Advocacy Program, noted: “It is gratifying to see our students succeed in these competitions year after year.”

Norwood to Receive Humanitarian Award

PROFESSOR KIMBERLY NORWOOD has been selected to receive the National Bar Association’s Humanitarian Award in large part due to her high-school-to-law-school pipeline/mentoring program. The award is given to someone who has worked to improve the community and/or who empowers others to better their situation or condition.

Norwood also received two other awards locally: the Mound City Bar Association’s 2009 Scovel Richardson Community Service Award and a Missouri Lawyers Media Legal Scholar Award.

In 2007, Norwood launched a program to create interest in education and the law among disadvantaged youths of color. The program is a service learning component of her Race, Education & the Law course for law students, who research and write about public education in America and its impact on minority races, ethnicities, cultures, and economically depressed populations. The law students also serve as mentors for the high school students and pair up with local attorneys to teach the students how to research and argue a mock case in education law.

Recently, the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr. met with Norwood to learn about the program and to discuss the possibility of his transforming her model into one that could be used in churches and community centers throughout Chicago.

The awards also cite Norwood’s work with the law school’s Civil Justice Clinic and externship program in Kenya and Ghana. Additionally, she teaches an all-day workshop for public school teachers on black education in America, and she and several Washington University Law alumni supervise a mentoring program for interested black law students. Above all, Norwood’s work centers on “how the law can help create systems that will improve people’s lives and eventually change negative attitudes.”

“The law can help create systems that will improve people’s lives and eventually change negative attitudes.”

KIM NORWOOD
Federal Budget and Tax Policy for a Sound Fiscal Future

Sponsored by the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, this conference brought together nearly two dozen policymakers, academic experts, and other professionals to discuss the economic crisis, budget deficit, budget reform and regulations, entitlement implications, tax expenditures, and budget accounting. Professor Cheryl Block served as the primary organizer for the conference.

Access to Equal Justice Colloquium

Sponsored by the Clinical Affairs Program, this ninth annual conference tackled issues ranging from court reform to domestic violence processes, environmental justice, intellectual property and access to justice, the role of mitigation specialists, and professional ethics. Panel participants included a wide range of clinical faculty, lawyers, judges, community service providers, and government officials. Associate dean and professor Annette Appell was the lead organizer for the colloquium.
The Economics & Law of Innovation Conference

Sponsored by the Center on Law, Innovation & Economic Growth, the conference was organized around the critique of a recent book authored by Washington University economists Michele Boldrin and David Levine, titled Against Intellectual Monopoly. About 20 commentators and presenters also discussed other issues related to the intersection of law, economics, and innovation. Professors and center co-directors Charles McManis and Gerrit De Geest co-organized the conference.

Crimes Against Humanity Initiative

A distinguished group of nearly 50 international law experts from around the world gathered at the law school to begin work on a Specialized Convention on Crimes Against Humanity. Participants presented research on specific substantive and procedural aspects of the draft convention and debated related issues. Under the auspices of the Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute, the meetings were part of a two-year project, funded in part by a leadership grant from alumnus Steven Cash Nickerson and by the United States Institute of Peace. Harris Institute director and professor Leila Nadya Sadat is chairing the initiative.
Joy Co-Authors Ethics Book for Prosecutors, Defenders

Professor Peter Joy’s co-authored book, Do No Wrong: Ethics for Prosecutors and Defenders, was recently published by the American Bar Association’s Criminal Justice Section.

Director of the law school’s Criminal Justice Clinic, Joy is well known for his teaching and scholarship in legal ethics, clinical legal education, and trial practice. Before becoming a law professor, he litigated both criminal and civil cases in private practice.

The ethics book is adapted from a series of articles that Joy originally co-wrote with Case Western Reserve University law professor Kevin McMunigal for the ABA’s quarterly magazine, Criminal Justice. Their updated book is divided into nine parts spanning the prosecution’s role, defense counsel’s role, criminal practice and the media, client autonomy, conflicts of interest, investigation and discovery, plea negotiations, preparation for trial, and litigation ethics.

Subtopics include ethical rules specific to prosecutors, including rationales for treating prosecutors differently; rules of scientific and exculpatory evidence; constitutional standards for defense counsel; causes of wrongful convictions; allocation of authority between attorney and client; and campaign pledges to prosecute. Other subtopics are the role of secret recordings; confidentiality issues; the anti-contact rule in criminal prosecutions; destroyed documents; disclosing exculpatory material and corporate privilege in plea negotiations; witness preparation; inconsistent prosecutions; and the use of religion in closing arguments.

In his review, Fordham University legal ethics scholar Bruce A. Green calls the book “a series of highly readable, thought-provoking essays, grounded in relevant authorities,” as it “presents dilemmas that invite lawyers to consider the fundamental nature of prosecuting and defending and how these differ.”

Clinics Win Major Victories for Clients

Students, Faculty, and Staff in the Clinical Affairs Program have had several major victories this academic year.

A client of the Civil Justice Clinic, who was convicted for the murder of her abusive husband, had her sentence commuted by outgoing Missouri Governor Matt Blunt. Since 2005, numerous clinic students and faculty have worked to bring to light the extreme physical and sexual violence that their client, Charity Sue Carey, suffered at the hands of her husband. Carey was convicted before much was known about “battered wife syndrome.” Thanks to the clinic’s efforts, the 35-year-old Sikeston, Missouri, woman’s sentence was commuted from 30 years to 10 years, and she was released from prison in April.

The Civil Justice Clinic also won a victory in the Missouri Court of Appeals for the Eastern District for those seeking a child order of protection. Referring to protecting domestic violence victims as “a state interest of utmost importance,” the appellate court determined that a petitioner for a child order of protection may not be charged for guardian ad litem fees or other necessary costs of litigation. With regard to a secondary issue, the court held that petitioners are exempt from the appellate court docketing fee, if they choose to appeal.

The Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic (IEC) was instrumental in bringing about a new ambient air standard for lead. The EPA’s new national standard is a direct result of a lawsuit the IEC filed in federal court on behalf of the Missouri Coalition for the Environment and former Hercules Neum residents in 2004. The new standard is one-tenth of the old standard, which was set in 1978. The clinic originally filed the lawsuit to force review of the standard and participated actively in each step of the review process.

The IEC also won a partial victory for its client in a case seeking public records under the Freedom of Information Act. The Missouri Coalition for the Environment Foundation (MCEF) sought documents from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers related to a study of flooding in the Upper Mississippi River System. The federal district court ruled in favor of the Corps, but the IEC appealed with then law student Aryeh Kaplan, JD ’08, presenting the oral argument before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. The Eighth Circuit remanded the case to the district court for further proceedings.

In other clinic news, the Intellectual Property & Business Formation Legal Clinic changed its name to the Intellectual Property & Nonprofit Organizations Clinic to better reflect an added emphasis on work in the nonprofit sector. Among its success stories were developing articles of incorporation for several charter schools, assisting a nonprofit that provides hospice care in Thailand, and creating a whistleblower policy for a public library.

Throughout the year, clinic students and faculty provided services ranging from appellate advocacy to representation in felony and misdemeanor cases to assistance with domestic violence, housing, and social security disputes. Students clerked for federal judges and worked in the U.S. Attorney’s Office, in federal public defender offices, and in various placements on Capitol Hill.
Distance Learning Courses Offered in Taiwan

THE LAW SCHOOL has begun offering distance learning courses in intellectual property law to National Chiao Tung University (NCTU) in Taiwan.

“The idea for the distance learning courses grew out of an effort to establish a closer relationship with NCTU, which is located in Taiwan’s Silicon Valley and is responsible for educating many of Taiwan’s IP lawyers and judges,” says Charles McManis, the Thomas and Karole Green Professor of Law, director of the Intellectual Property and Technology Law Program, and co-director of the Center on Law, Innovation, & Economic Growth. “The arrangement also provides the Taiwanese law students with an introduction to the types of courses in our LLM Program in Intellectual Property and Technology Law.”

Second-year law student Melissa Lin received a Leaders of Tomorrow award from Missouri Lawyers Media. Lin has held leadership roles locally and nationally for the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association and was a founder of the China Law Society. She is a staff editor of the Journal of Law & Policy, a volume of which will carry her article on parental leave legislation.

Law Students Honored for Scholarship, Service

SEVERAL LAW STUDENTS WERE RECENTLY recognized for their scholarship and service.

Caldwell Collins, JD ’09, received a Graduate Student Award from the Washington University Association of Women Faculty. Collins has served as president of the Women’s Law Caucus; co-taught an undergraduate course, Women & the Law; and was editor-in-chief of the Washington University Journal of Law & Policy, a volume of which will carry her article on parental leave legislation.

An article on school desegregation by Erin Nave, JD ’09, will be published in Columbia University’s National Black Law Journal. The paper also was selected by blind juried review for presentation at a Saint Louis University symposium. The Urban Lawyer will publish articles on tax increment financing by third-year law student Phillip Geheb and second-year law student Lauren Smith.

Second-year law student Aurora Steinle and LLM student Dawn Dziuba also won second-place awards for presentations on charter schools and patient care, respectively, at a Washington University graduate research symposium.
Washington University Law saluted its graduates and their families at Commencement Ceremonies on May 15, 2009. (Left) JD candidates, from left, Christian Hines, Robert Higgins III, and Jennifer Heydemann prepare to receive their diplomas.

Some 274 JDs, 58 LLMs, and one JSD made up the May 2009 list of graduates. Susan Nell Rowe, JD/MSW ’83, president of Washington University Law’s Alumni Council and ex-officio of the National Council, offered the Welcome to the Legal Profession. JD candidate Caldwell Collins served as the Voice of the Class of 2009. Class marshals were Colin O’Brien, Kevin Schopp, and Young-Chae Lee.