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Maurer School of Law  
Bloomington



# INDIANA LAW UPDATE

May 2003

## Greetings from the School of Law!

Dear Friend:

In the [latest rankings](#) of the top 100 U.S. law schools from *U.S. News and World Report*, the IU School of Law—Bloomington was ranked 15th among public law schools and 38th overall. While the *U.S. News* rankings remain controversial, that controversy primarily surrounds the weight given to various criteria, not the criteria themselves. Those criteria include reputation among academics, judges, and lawyers; median undergraduate grade point averages and LSAT scores of matriculants; the rate at which applicants are accepted; student-faculty ratio; graduate employment percentages; and bar passage rates. On some measures, Indiana does better than its ranking would suggest. Among public law schools, for instance, we are ranked eighth in student-faculty ratio and 13th in reputation among lawyers and judges. On other measures, such as the number of our graduates employed nine months after graduation and our reputation among academics, we need to continue to make progress.



Our alumni are an important part of assuring that our reputation remains strong. Your support of the school helps us to achieve our mission. Thank you for your continued interest in and advocacy for the Law School.

Best Wishes,  
Lauren Robel, JD'83

## Buxbaum promoted and tenured



To the delight of her colleagues, students, and the entire Law School community, Professor [Hannah Buxbaum](#) has been granted tenure and promoted to the rank of full professor through a vote of the Indiana University Board of Trustees. The Promotion and Tenure Committee lauded Buxbaum's research for its creative contributions to private international law.

Dean Robel noted that Professor Buxbaum "has discovered and articulated new insights into judicial treatment of economic regulation of international transactions and has formulated practical and theoretical alternative solutions to problems in international conflicts law. She has a special knack for seeing juxtapositions that others fail to see. Especially impressive are her treatment of antitrust in statutory and private contractual contexts and her comparison of choice of law with choice of forum."

Buxbaum also won praise for her teaching. She is the only untenured faculty member ever to be awarded the Law School's Wallace Teaching Award.

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## Istrabadi, JD'88, helps rebuild Iraqi judicial system

**Feisal Istrabadi**, JD'88, has spent hundreds of hours over the past year working with the U.S. departments of State and Justice to plan for transitional justice in Iraq following the collapse of Saddam Hussein's regime. Istrabadi, a partner in Boesch & Istrabadi, Valparaiso, Ind., was [featured in a story](#) in the April 21st issue of the *National Law Journal* about the Working Group on Transitional Justice, part of the State Department's Future of Iraq Project. He is quoted as saying, "Those of us who have advocated for military intervention and who have argued that democracy is possible in Iraq—I think we've assumed a duty, not necessarily to return to Iraq permanently, but for a time to help."

What are other fellow law alumni doing? [Read the news](#) about Phil Simon, JD'87, Nina Harding, JD'80, and others and [submit your own class note](#) while you're at it!

## Federal Communications Law Journal celebrates 10th anniversary

Fred Rogers



The [Federal Communications Law Journal](#) is celebrating its 10th anniversary at the Law School with a special issue revisiting former Federal Communications Commission Chairman Newton N. Minow's celebrated 1961 "vast wasteland" speech in the context of today's much more diverse video marketplace. The issue is dedicated to Fred Rogers, founder and host of PBS's longest-running series, *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, and includes a posthumous essay by Rogers.

The issue includes Minow's original speech and an article co-authored by Minow and Professor [Fred H. Cate](#), as well as contributions by two dozen others, including Rep. Edward Markey, D-Mass.; FCC Commissioners Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, and Kevin Martin; former FCC Chairman Richard Wiley (now of Wiley, Rein & Fielding); former Commissioner Nicholas Johnson (now a professor at the University of Iowa College of Law); former FCC General Counsel Henry Geller; Zoë Baird, director of the Markle Foundation; four academics (including Cass Sunstein of the University of Chicago School of Law, and Geoff Cowan, Emmy Award-winning dean of the University of Southern California's Annenberg School for Communication); six practicing attorneys (including Law School graduate **Joel Rosenbloom**, JD'54, from Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering; Jonathan Blake, managing partner of Covington & Burling; and prominent media lawyer Bruce Sanford from Baker & Hostetler); Edward Fritts, president of the National Association of Broadcasters; and Condace Pressley, president of the National Association of Black Journalists.

The *Federal Communications Law Journal* is co-published by the Law School and the Federal Communications Bar Association and is the association's official journal. Professor Cate serves as its faculty advisor; third-year student Deborah Salons is editor-in-chief. The special issue will appear on May 14.

## IU Jessup team completes successful season

IU Law School students Sandra Ante, Pamela Fierst, Nick Levi, and Derek Mills competed in the 2003 Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, leading IU to one of its best finishes ever. The team, coached by Professor **Hannah Buxbaum**, began the competition in February at the U.S. central regional tournament held in Columbia, Mo. At that tournament, the IU team was the only one to win each of its

Jessup Competitors

preliminary rounds. IU entered the elimination rounds with the top seed, and then defeated the University of Illinois in the semifinals and Loyola in the finals to win the tournament. The team members also brought home second-place honors for their written memorials, as well as individual honors for oral advocacy (Ante and Mills tied for third place; Levi won 13th place).

By winning the regional tournament, the team then advanced to the international rounds of the competition, held in Washington, D.C., during the first week of April. The IU team competed in the international rounds as one of 83 teams, 10 of which were from the United States. The team's four preliminary international rounds were against Italy, Indonesia, Harvard, and Denver. At the end of the tournament, Mills, Ante, Fierst, and Levi all ranked in the "Top 100 Oralists" of the international rounds. Levi had an especially impressive finish, placing 32nd out of approximately 340 competitors.

The Jessup competition, the largest and most prestigious international law moot court competition in the world, began in 1959. Today, approximately 1,500 students from more than 300 law schools in almost 90 nations participate every year. This year's competition focused on issues of state responsibility for the treatment of women and children during and following a civil war.

## Journals, Moot Court select new leaders

The School of Law's three law journals have appointed new editors for the 2003-2004 academic year: **John Worth**, for the [Indiana Law Journal](#); **Carl Butler**, for the [Federal Communications Law Journal](#); and **Andrew Yoder**, for the [Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies](#). In addition, the [Sherman Minton Moot Court](#) board has appointed **Jacqueline Brown** as its new chief justice. A very enthusiastic congratulations to all! Many thanks are extended to current law journal editors **Chris Humphreys** (*IJGLS*), **Deborah Salons** (*FCLJ*), **Andrew LeMar** (*ILJ*), and moot court chief justice **B.J. Brinkerhoff** for their work, diligence, and dedication.

## Students trounce faculty (again) at Assembly Hall

Dean Fromm makes a bold play

In [a stunning upset](#), a law student team narrowly (sort of) triumphed over a faculty team in the eagerly-awaited student-faculty basketball game played this year at IU's Assembly Hall. The venue did not appear to help the faculty team, which included **Alex Tanford**, **Luis Fuentes-Rohwer**, **Mike Jenuwine**, **Don Gjerdingen**, **Jeff Stake**, **Joe Hoffmann**, **Sarah Hughes**, **Richard Vaughan**, **Kevin Brown**, and **Earl Singleton**. In addition to playing one mean fight song

on the accordion (in an attempt to frighten the student team), Dean **Leonard Fromm** also drove frequently — albeit mostly ineffectively — to the basket.

## Alumni Weekend 2003

Please join alumni from all class years at [Alumni Weekend 2003](#) on Sept. 19 and 20. We're featuring class reunions, the IU v. Kentucky football game and tailgate party in the big tent across from the stadium at the DeVault Alumni Center, a golf outing with Dean of Students and Alumni Leonard Fromm, and the [Academy of Law Alumni Fellows](#) induction ceremony. Of course, we hope all alumni will join us for this weekend, but if you are a member of the Class of 1953, 1978, or 1993, you'll be celebrating a milestone reunion this year—we hope you'll make a special effort to attend this year's Alumni Weekend. Reunion information will be mailed by early June.

Detailed information and registration materials will be mailed in early July. If you have questions, suggestions, or comments about Alumni Weekend, please contact our alumni relations coordinator, Catherine Stafford, at [catstaff@indiana.edu](mailto:catstaff@indiana.edu) or (812) 855-3015. For up-to-date information, check our [Alumni Weekend Web page](#).

## **The Fund for Excellence needs your support to reach its goal!**

As of May 2, 2003, the Fund for Excellence has raised \$552,257.48 in cash, or 92 percent of its \$600,000 goal. Our work, however, is far from over — we need everyone's participation and support! Currently, 1,447 out of 8,009 living alumni have contributed in the 2002–2003 fiscal year, for a participation rate of just over 18 percent. If the remaining 6,652 alumni each contributed an average of \$100, we would double our goal and dramatically increase revenue used for vital student programs such as scholarships, law journals, trial advocacy teams, career services, and student organizations. We would also send a resounding message about how deeply our alumni care about the Law School and our students. Please consider the impact your legal education has had on your life and lend your support to the Fund for Excellence so that our students may continue to receive excellent educations. You may [make your donation online](#) or send your contribution to the Indiana University School of Law—Bloomington, Indiana University Foundation, P.O. Box 2298, Bloomington, IN 47402-2298.