February 2012 Newsletter

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Greetings from Bloomington

The spring semester is well under way, with a full schedule of classes, clinics, lectures, and visits from distinguished alumni and friends. Heading the list: our weekly Career Choices series, featuring practitioners from all over the globe to share their experiences with students in the first-year legal profession course.

Now in its fourth year, this innovative course introduces students not only to the ethical responsibilities of our profession, but also to the many career options that a law degree presents. We believe that this mandatory course is the only one of its kind in the country.

Whether serving on a Career Choices panel, judging Moot Court, mentoring students, or just stopping by to catch up, you are always welcome at the Law School. The expertise and advice of our alumni are more important than ever in today's dynamic market for legal services. If you'd like to participate, please contact me.

Lauren Robel is settling in at her new position as Interim Provost and Executive Vice President of IU Bloomington. The article nearby will update you on her reflections so far.

Meanwhile, our faculty continue to perform groundbreaking research, making an impact in the courts, business, and legal education. Their work helps keep the Maurer School of Law on the forefront of change in an ever-changing profession.

Warm regards,
Hannah Buxbaum
Interim Dean and John E. Schiller Chair in Legal Ethics

Indiana Law announces new educational initiative with Indian law school

The Maurer School of Law and India's Jindal Global Law School have announced a new initiative in which students can earn a law degree from both schools.

Academy of Law Alumni Fellows selected

Induction into the Academy of Law Alumni Fellows is the highest honor the Law School bestows. This year's fellows will be honored in a ceremony at Alumni Hall in the Indiana Memorial Union on Friday, March 23:

Stephen F. Burns, JD'68
Dorothy J. Frapwell, JD'73
Stephen H. Paul, JD'72
Richard S. Rhodes, LLB'53

Robel settling in as interim provost

Prof. Lauren Robel is settling in following her move from the dean's office to the interim provost's office. She told the Indiana Daily Student recently that her new role is a way to give back to the IU community. Read the article.
The program, the first of its kind in India, enables students to earn a JD from the Maurer School of Law and an LLB from the Jindal Global Law School in four years and a summer, at no additional cost over a three-year Maurer JD degree. The program was formalized in a signing ceremony on February 19, 2012, when Joseph L. Hoffmann, Harry Pratter Professor of Law, visited Jindal's New Delhi campus on behalf of Indiana University and delivered a distinguished public lecture.

"As the world's largest democracy, India is playing an increasingly important role in global commerce," said Jayanth K. Krishnan, Professor of Law and Director of the Law School's India Initiative. Professor William Henderson, Director of the Center on the Global Legal Profession, added that "with this experience and background, we believe our students will be particularly attractive to US law firms with growing Asia practice desks and to US companies with operations in India."

"Read more"

Journal to mark 20th year with symposium

The Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies commemorates its 20th year with a symposium on April 5-6 titled "Globalization and Law: The Next 20 Years."

Founded by Alfred C. Aman, Jr., Roscoe C. O'Byrne professor of law, IJGLS has attracted distinguished global scholars through its history.

Several of these scholars are returning to campus for the symposium, including Martin M. Shapiro, James W. and Isabel Coffroth Professor of Law at UC Berkeley School of Law; and Saskia Sassen, Robert S. Lynd Professor of Sociology at Columbia University.

For more information about the symposium, visit the journal's website at ijgls.indiana.edu.
Center for IP Research reaches milestone: leading a major international conference

The Center for Intellectual Property Research (CIPR) will hold an international conference on the future of design protection law this fall. The conference, which will take place at Oxford University in coordination with Oxford's Intellectual Property Research Centre, will bring together the world's leading scholars, practitioners, industry representatives, and government officials involved in all aspects of design protection law, including scholars from the US, Europe, and China. Microsoft Corporation will sponsor the conference.

Professor Mark D. Janis, Robert A. Lucas Chair of Law and the CIPR's director, explained that the intellectual property laws have protected the visual appearance of industrial products for some two hundred years. The challenge is to see how those laws are adapting to design innovation in new virtual environments.

"Think of smartphone icons or other sorts of touch-screen user interfaces," Janis said. "Design law needs to be nimble enough to deal with these cutting-edge design activities. We are looking forward to convening some of the most recognized experts in this area." Proceedings of the Oxford conference will be published in IP Theory, the CIPR's on-line, peer-edited scholarly journal.

Janis credited Dean Buxbaum and the Law School's administration for fostering a climate at the school that encourages public/private partnerships such as the one with Microsoft. "We're blessed with outstanding leadership here," he said. The CIPR also has a major partnership with Cook Medical Group in strategic management of intellectual property.

Join us for upcoming receptions!

Alumni receptions are a great way to connect with old and new friends and to share your experiences with students over complimentary drinks and hors d'oeuvres.

Chicago
Monday, March 12, 6-8 p.m.; Sidebar Grille, 221 N. LaSalle Street. Join Interim Dean Hannah Buxbaum, alumni, and current students.

New York City
Thursday, March 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m., O'Casey's, 22 E. 41st Street. Join Asst. Dean Michael Keller, alumni, and current students.

Indiana Law Societies update

The Law School's Chicago and Washington, DC Societies are going strong. Chicago-area alumni are preparing for spring break activities and planning for summer alumni and student events.

DC alumni are organizing philanthropic events and planning for summer student and alumni activities. For more information or to get involved, go to the DC Indiana Law Society Facebook page.

BLSA chapter wins regional award

Indiana Law's Black Law Students' Association was named Chapter of the Year for the Midwest Region at a ceremony in Columbus, Ohio on February 18. The chapter will compete against five other regional winners for the national award in Washington, DC on March 10.

Rodney Robbins, JD'12, is serving as Midwest Region Chair.
He is pictured below (center, in bow tie), along with other Indiana Law BLSA members and Chibundu Nnake, National Chair (fourth from right).

Alumni and friends visit campus as part of Career Choices series

For many students, an important part of law school is figuring out which career options to pursue. Indiana Law's unique first-year course on the legal profession includes Career Choices: weekly visits from experienced alumni and friends in a wide range of fields.

In January and February alone, students heard from practitioners in large firms, small firms, advocacy organizations, and federal and local government; and in fields such as commercial and bankruptcy law, litigation, sports law, and trade associations.

Rebeca Nunez, JD’14, has found the sessions extremely helpful. "I am the first in my family to pursue a JD and consequently do not have a legal network to call upon for guidance," she said. "The Career Choices lunches and dinners are the perfect antidote. I have introduced myself to four attorneys, asked for their business cards, and contacted all of them for an interview. Because of the Maurer connection, they have all agreed."

"The Career Choices lunches place you in the center of a prestigious and established network," Nunez concluded. "As students, all we need to do is seize the opportunity."

Our thanks to the following Career Choices speakers during January and February: Josh Abel, Jamie Andree, Bryan Babb, Adam Bain, Scott Bearby, Jim Carr, John Cooper, Lakshmi Devi Hasanadka, David Evans, Ken Falk, Corinne

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