

Clinical Law International Focus

IN THE LAST TWO DECADES, there has been a deepening convergence of international and domestic law in virtually every substantive area. Law schools have begun to take up the challenge of ensuring that future lawyers are equipped to work effectively in a globalized arena, and international clinics give them the opportunity to learn about the increasingly complex interaction between domestic principles and rules and international customary law. In November 2010, international clinicians and stakeholders gathered at the School of Law for a two-day conference to reimagine the idea of international clinical law.



UM Carey Law students Michelle Salomon '11 and John Hart '11, with paralegals of the Namibia Paralegal Association.

One of the issues that was discussed was that, while still in place, the more traditional framework of the international clinic—providing a venue for students to work in the classroom setting on international litigation matters—is moving toward models in which the focus of the clinic, its location, the types of projects worked on, the partners and clients involved, and the strategies used to achieve the desired ends have all changed.

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UM Carey Law is at the forefront of this movement, establishing one of the first clinics of its kind in 2010. The International and Comparative Law Clinic enables students to spend eight weeks working in-country on emerging legal issues in China, Namibia, and Mexico, supervised by School of Law faculty. Students have the opportunity to address important issues such as workers' rights, access to clean drinking water, and microcredit lending.

"It was very important that we were on the ground and were able to go into the community," says Carlos Guevara '11, who traveled to Mexico. "It was instrumental for us to see the merits of our claim."

The Clinic builds on the School of Law's groundbreaking LEAD Initiative, which helps students develop the cross-cultural competence they will need to practice law in today's global arena.



(Top to bottom) Yvonne Dasub, Supervising Attorney of the UNAM Legal Aid Clinic at the University of Namibia, gives the keynote address. UM Carey Law Professor Peter Danchin welcomes participants to the panel discussions on the second day. UM Carey Law students Heather Kirkwood '11, Katie D'Adamo '11, Juan Rossi '11, and Carlos Guevara '11 with Mexican workers at Centro de los Derechos del Migrante in Mexico.



Lisa Lindsley of AFSCME boils down the Dodd-Frank legislation for fellow capitalists and non-lawyers: “No casino economy’ is the message.”



Tough Talk on Dodd-Frank

ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2010, the *Journal of Business & Technology Law*, in cooperation with the Business Law Program, hosted “The Economic Impact of the Dodd-Frank Bill.” Practitioners closely involved in drafting, passing, and implementing Dodd-Frank gathered in Washington, D.C. to examine both the immediate and long-term impacts of this monumental legislation.

Panelists included Barbara Roper of the Consumer Federation of America; Wallace Turbeville of Better Markets; Joshua Rosner of Graham Fisher & Co.; Heather Slavkin, AFL-CIO Legal and Policy Advisor; Peter Holland '96, UM Carey Law Visiting Professor and Consumer Protection Clinic instructor; and Lisa Donner, Executive Director of Americans for Financial Reform.

(Above) Simon Johnson, far right, Professor of Entrepreneurship and Global Economics and Management at the MIT Sloan School of Management, issues a challenge to the White House to advocate on behalf of the newly formed Consumer Protection Agency.

(Left) Calling Dodd-Frank “the greatest restructuring of our financial markets since the New Deal,” UM Carey Law Professor Michael Greenberger opens the morning panel and moderated the afternoon panel.

CONFERENCES & LECTURES



Health Care Reform Takes Center Stage

IN AN EFFORT to provide some insight on the new Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the Law & Health Care Program recently hosted a year-long speaker series. Its mission: to emphasize critical aspects of the legislation that may have received short shrift by the media but were important issues for both practitioners and consumers to know.

Support for the speaker series was generously provided by the Leonard C. Homer/Ober, Kaler, Grimes & Shriver Law & Health Care Fund.

(Above, left) Temple University Professor of Law Emeritus Frank McClellan examines health care disparities.

(Above, right) Joy Pritts, Chief Privacy Officer of the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, discussed the effects health-care reform would have on patient privacy.

(Left) Columbia Law School Professor Gillian Metzger (speaking) and Cato Institute Senior Fellow Ilya Shapiro gives a point/counterpoint lecture on the reform's Constitutional implications.

UM CAREY LAW Hosts the World

THE SCHOOL OF LAW was the host of the Stetson International Environmental Moot Court on March 17-20, the first time in the prestigious event's 15-year history that it was held outside its Florida home. Sixteen teams from five continents—including a team from Zimbabwe whose members had to raise their own funds to travel to Baltimore—competed over three days before a team from the Law Society of Ireland bested the University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School of Law for the title.

The subject of the competition had a ripped-from-the-headlines quality: an offshore oil spill, government regulation,

and international law. Each team had four preliminary arguments, and half the field advanced to the quarterfinal round. Four teams made it to the semifinals, and the final round was held the afternoon of Sunday, March 20.

In addition to the overall victory by the Law Society of Ireland, the two teams from the Philippines finished first and second in the Best Memorial competition. The team from Zimbabwe, which impressed its fellow competitors with its professionalism and determination to raise money in order to get to the competition, won the Spirit of Stetson award.

—Jeffrey Raymond

Support for the competition was provided by the Fedder Environmental Fund, established through the generosity of Joel D. Fedder, Esq., '58, and his wife, Ellen S. Fedder.



(From left) Environmental Law Program Managing Director William Piermattei '99, Environmental Advocacy Adjunct Professors Karla Schaffer '07 and David Mandell '07, Law Society of Ireland team members Denise Daly, Maeve Larkin and Clare McQuillan, Stetson Law Professor Royal Gardner, and Ireland team coach Thomas Patrick Kennedy.

Students Learn from Public Servants

RECENTLY, students at the School of Law learned firsthand from some of Maryland's most high-profile attorneys and public servants what they can do with a law degree.

U.S. Representative Elijah Cummings '76, the ranking member of the House of Representative's Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, brought several committee members—including Chairman Darrell Issa, R-Calif.—to the School of Law for a hearing on the continuing mortgage crisis. Cummings called Baltimore City Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake '95, and Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley '88, to testify on the impact foreclosures and troubled mortgage relief programs are having on citizens and communities. The congressional hearing drew intense local media coverage and a packed house in the School's Ceremonial Moot Court Room.

In the afternoon, the committee heard testimony from Sgt. Kevin Matthews (ret.), a client of UM Carey Law's Consumer Protection Clinic. Matthews, a retired National Guard member who served a year-long deployment in Iraq, lost his home due to faulty foreclosure practices by GMAC. Now part of the "robo-signing" disputes working their way through Maryland courts, Matthews detailed his struggles to the committee and pleaded with the members to help the tens of thousands of homeowners

still facing foreclosure. "I am an example for everything that can go wrong when lenders abuse the system and are not held accountable," Matthews said. "Hopefully, through your actions, other homeowners trying to be proactive and do the right thing will not have to endure what I have suffered through."

Also in early March, at separate events, Baltimore City State's Attorney Gregg Bernstein '81 and Assistant Attorney General and former School of Law professor Thomas Perez spoke to School of Law students.

Bernstein said careers in his office are a good way for young lawyers to serve the community while building their own careers. "For those of you who want to learn trial skills, it's a great place to start." Bernstein also said he intends to hire a full-time training director to instill professionalism among the hundreds of attorneys who work for his office. Like Bernstein, Perez encouraged the students to consider serving their communities by becoming prosecutors. Both agreed that prosecutors need to use strong legal skills and good judgment in order to achieve justice.

—Jeffrey Raymond

(Clockwise) Maryland Commissioner of Financial Regulation Mark A. Kaufman (left) testifies alongside Sgt. Kevin Matthews (ret.) and his attorney about the foreclosure crisis in the state of Maryland. Chairman Darrell Issa opens the committee hearing, along with Rep. Cummings. Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley '88 and Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake '95 are sworn in to testify.

