

BERKELEY INTERNATIONAL LAW SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Hi everyone, and welcome back to school. We hope you all enjoyed a fantastic Fall Break! We have some very exciting events coming up in the next couple of weeks. Remember, our newsletter will normally come out the 1st and 15th of the month (this week we decided to wait until Monday the 6th because of Fall Break).

We also wanted to let you all know that the Center for Global Challenges and the Law is seeking a Graduate Student Researcher. Below is a description of the position:

Rule of law and Corruption GSRs needed

The Miller Institute for Global Challenges and the Law seeks a research assistant to work up to 15 hours a week on projects related to rule of law, corruption and other international law topics as needed. Work will continue into the spring semester. Please send a resume, unofficial transcript, and any other relevant information, including references to Emily Best ebest@law.berkeley.edu.

SPOTLIGHT EVENT

Malgosia Fitzmaurice: The European Court of Human Rights and the Right of Clean Environment: A Phantom of Reality?

When: Tuesday, October 7, 12:45 – 1:45 pm, Goldberg Room (See details below in on campus events section)

We encourage you to join us for this event - Malgosia has had a very interesting career and is spending the semester doing research at Berkeley Law. She very much would like to connect with students while here, so please don't be shy about introducing yourselves at the end of the discussion.

EVENTS ON CAMPUS

10/6

"Taxi to the Dark Side" and the US War on Terror

When: Monday, October 6, 4 – 5:30 pm, Wheeler Hall, Maude Fife Room, 315

Alex Gibney, Director of the Academy Award winning documentary, "Taxi to the Dark Side," will discuss his film, military detentions and the U.S. war on terror, with Lowell Bergman, UCB School of Journalism, in a presentation sponsored by the UCB Human Rights Center and the Townsend Center for the Humanities.

10/7

United States v. Salim Hamdan: War Crimes Trial at Guantanamo Bay

When: Tuesday, October 7, 12:30 – 2 pm, Boalt 145

What: The Boalt Hall Chapter of the American Constitution Society invites you to an afternoon discussion of the trial of Salim Ahmed Hamdan, the first detainee at Guantanamo Bay to be tried by the United States before a Military Commission. Our speakers will be Joe McMillan and Harry Schneider of Perkins Coie, who were civilian defense counsel for the Accused and two of the four members of the trial team that represented Mr. Hamdan at the trial. Messrs. McMillan and Schneider will provide an overview of the federal court challenge that led to the landmark decision *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, and will describe the prosecution and trial of Mr. Hamdan after Congress enacted the Military Commissions Act of 2006 in direct response to the Supreme Court's decision.

Food and drinks will be provided.

Malgosia Fitzmaurice: The European Court of Human Rights and the Right of Clean Environment: A Phantom of Reality?

When: Tuesday, October 7, 12:45 – 1:45 pm, Goldberg Room

The main focus of the presentation will be the possible development of a human right to a clean environment within the framework of the European Convention on Human Rights and Political Freedoms by the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. This Convention does not have an explicit human right to a clean environment. It was developed on the basis of the jurisprudence of the Court, which based its case-law in this respect on the general principles of adjudication such as the margin of appreciation and the balancing of interests test.

Malgosia Fitzmaurice holds a chair of public international law at the Department of Law, Queen Mary, University of London. She specializes in international environmental law and the law of treaties. Professor Fitzmaurice published widely on both subjects. In July 2001, she was invited to deliver keynote lectures on 'International Protection of the Environment' at the Hague Academy of International Law.

In 1996, Professor Fitzmaurice delivered a paper at the 50th anniversary of the International Court of Justice in The Hague. She lectured widely in the United Kingdom and abroad at various universities, such as Utrecht and Brussels and at the World Bank in 2001.

Sponsored by California Center for Environmental Law and Policy

10/9

"The Effect of International Law on Preferences and Beliefs" with Michael Tomz

When: Thursday, October 9, 3:20 – 5:10 pm, Boalt 12

Berkeley Law's Miller Institute for Global Challenges and the Law presents a workshop on International Law and International Relations with Michael Tomz, Associate Professor of Law, Stanford Law School. Title: The Effect of International Law on Preferences and Beliefs.

10/10

Travers Conference on Ethics & Accountability in Government: Holding China Accountable? Strategies for Protecting Consumers in a Globalized World

When: Friday, October 10, 9 am – 3:30 pm, Barrows Hall, Lipman Room – 8th Floor
Free Registration (recommended); register by October 6 at polisci.berkeley.edu/travers/

Lead paint in toys, diethylene glycol in toothpaste, melamine in pet food. These three consumer scandals have grabbed the headlines over the last year and raised deep concerns about the safety of Chinese consumer goods. China certainly has no monopoly on the production of tainted or fraudulent consumer products, but our massive and growing dependence on Chinese goods raises fundamental concerns about regulatory strategies for protecting American consumers. Given the underdeveloped state of China's regulatory system, the capacity for American regulatory agencies to monitor and enforce consumer product safety standards becomes critical. Yet recent consumer scandals suggest that agencies like the FDA, the Department of Agriculture, and the Consumer Products Safety Commission have not yet adapted to the challenge of protecting consumers in a globalized world. This conference will investigate the strategies adopted by federal and state regulators to protect American consumers and their capacity to successfully implement these strategies. The conference will also look to other countries for lessons on how they regulate imported consumer products.

Continental breakfast and box lunch provided for pre-registrants

Sponsored by Department of Political Science, Center for Chinese Studies, Boalt Hall Center for Law and Society, Commonwealth Club of California

10/11

Race Judicata

When: Saturday, October 11, 10 am – 12 pm; Kroeber Plaza, immediately west of Boalt Hall, at the corner of Bancroft Way and College Ave

Race Judicata 2008 -- 5K run/walk and 10K run.

The proceeds from this annual ELQ event will fund environmental law fellowships which allow Berkeley Law students to work for public interest/sector organizations that strengthen communities and protect our environment. See <http://www.boalt.org/elq/fellowships.php> for more information.

Race Judicata is followed by a post-race party for all participants. Runners and walkers eat, drink and socialize and many receive great prizes!

10/11-10/12

Free Culture 2008 International Conference

When: Saturday, October 11, and Sunday, October 12, International House

Register at conference.freeculture.org

Students for Free Culture has organized a grassroots conference for and about free culture, technology, copyright, remix culture, and free software. We'll have talks by Lawrence Lessig, Pam Samuelson, and John Lilly of Mozilla, as well as panels on politics, open access, and digital art.

October 11 is hosted at Berkeley's International House. In addition to regular conference programming, check out our exhibitor area, where groups like the Electronic Frontier Foundation, Creative Commons, and others host interactive booths and activities.

October 12 is hosted on the Berkeley campus. Join us to define a national agenda for the Free Culture movement.

This year's conference is an experiment. Instead of charging event admission, we're asking attendees to pay what they think the value of admission is worth. Whether you give \$1 or \$100 is up to you. The proceeds will go towards conference expenses and further development of the Free Culture movement.

FC2008 is presented in participation with freeculture.org and the Berkeley Center for Law and Technology. Register today at conference.freeculture.org.

10/16

Institute for Global Challenges and the Law International Curriculum & Programs Meeting

Time: 12:30-1:145100.

Location: Room 100

Lunch will be served!

EVENTS OFF CAMPUS

10/7

Presidential Debate Watch Party: Screening and Discussion - Schools Program Event

Time: 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Location: World Affairs Council Auditorium, 312 Sutter Street, Second Floor, San Francisco, California 94108

Note: We are assuming law students are welcome to this too - but you might want to call and ask to confirm before heading out.

The 2008 US presidential election has become one of the greatest battles for 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Millions of Americans will be tuned in to watch the presidential debates --- why watch it alone? Join other students on this historic evening - we'll provide the big screen and refreshments- and a look at what makes the debates so important on the outcome of the election.

A great opportunity to meet other Bay Area high school and college students with an interest in politics and international relations. Bring your friends! Teachers are encouraged to bring student groups.

Check-in: 4:45 PM, Program and Debate: 5:15--7:30 PM, Discussion: 7:30-8:00 PM

10/14

The Rebalance of Power among China, India & Japan

Time: 6-7 p.m.

Location: World Affairs Council Auditorium, 312 Sutter Street, Second Floor, San Francisco, California 94108

In collaboration with the Japan Society of Northern California, the Council is honored to welcome Mr. Bill Emmott. The rising economic and political power of Asia is one of the biggest stories of our time. But it is often misunderstood as either a story of West versus East, or simply the rise of China and its challenge to America. Bill Emmott's new book, *Rivals: How the Power Struggle Between China, India and Japan will Shape our Next Decade*, questions those views. Mr. Emmott, whose tenure at The Economist spanned 13 years, will discuss the rivalry between these three great Asian powers and the economic and social changes that China, India and Japan are all destined to experience during the next decade.

TIPS

We sincerely hope that you took some time off during the break. If not, please give yourself a vacation day this coming weekend! It is important to replenish yourselves by taking some time off whenever you have the chance. In the next few weeks, we recommend that you try to finish up all non-academic tasks, such as work for journals or other extracurriculars. Once November rolls around, you will want to be able to focus as much as you can on preparation for exams without other distractions. We will hold a coffee break in late October, the details of which will be announced in the next newsletter.

If you have questions, concerns or suggestions we would love to hear them. Please email us (Tetyana and Sonia) at this email address.