



PENN STATE'S DICKINSON SCHOOL OF LAW INTERNATIONAL LAW SOCIETY

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The ILS Reporter

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ILS ARISE!

Ruth Hill Bro of Baker & McKenzie LLP stresses the importance of keeping the goals of your organization at the forefront of your mind. Bro does this by associating her goals to an acronym. ILS has adopted Bro's strategy and captured our vision in the acronym: ARISE. We desire to bring

- Awareness to matters related to international law,
- Relay useful information such as career and volunteer opportunities,
- Inform of news and events in the international legal field,
- Spearhead quality and responsible programming, and
- Engage the membership in building a strong Society.

Partner with us as we arise from a quiet past to an active and promising year. Get involved and take part in having a positive impact on the law school and surrounding community

Reporter's Corner:

Pathways to Employment in International Law

The Law Student Division and the Section of International Law sponsored "Pathways to Employment in International Law" (Pathways) at the 2009 American Bar Association Annual Meeting in Chicago. Pathways gave law students and new lawyers a forum to explore opportunities in international law with a panel of experienced legal practitioners. The panelists* offered a wealth of advice for law students including the following recommendations:

- Consider the substantial variety of career paths in international law, from mergers and acquisitions to focusing on the needs of small and midmarket businesses. Don't overlook the government and NGOs (nongovernmental organizations).
- Join the American Bar Association's Section of International Law and get involved with a committee.
- If you want to become an international business lawyer, become a good business lawyer first—the same logic follows for other specializations

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Hot Topics in International Law

- ▶ IP and IT representations in cross-border acquisition agreements
- ▶ Establishment of the Department of Justice's Center to Fight International Organized Crime
<http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2009/May/09-ag-525.html>
- ▶ The increasing activity of the business and legal sectors in the Middle East
- ▶ Investment and emerging opportunities in India
- ▶ NAFTA and its future in the new world economy.
- ▶ Division Among Tribunals in International Arbitration
- ▶ Structuring a Shariah-Compliant Transaction

Vis Moot Court Call for Submissions

Penn State Dickinson's Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court team is holding tryouts for the 2010 competition team. The Vis Moot is an international moot, holding its main competition in Vienna, Austria in the spring from 25 March 2010 - 1 April 2010. Prospective team members should (1) submit a writing sample to the team captain, Sarah Stec, and (2) prepare a 10-minute oral argument on an issue provided by Ms. Stec. **Interested JD students should submit their writing sample to Ms. Stec at shs159@psu.edu by August 23, 5PM.**

MEET THE BOARD



President – R. Michelle Boldon, 3L, University Park – rmb317@psu.edu Michelle has chaired organizations, sat on boards for professional associations, and organized and developed community service projects. Before starting law school, Michelle was a managing consultant for IBM Corporation and served as a business lead for global teams on multi-million dollar projects. She is sensitive to legal and political affairs around the world, passionate about international legal topics, and hopes to practice as an international lawyer.

Personal Goal: To be sensitive to the desires of ILS members and provide quality and relevant programming for the legal, university, and local communities. ♦ **Countries Visited:** Egypt, Canada, Israel, Jordan, Belize, England, France, Spain, South Africa, Kenya, Namibia, Finland, Thailand ♦ **A Favorite International Attraction:** The Musée Rodin ♦ **An Admired International Figure:** Nelson Mandela

◀ Michelle – Nelson Mandela Square, Johannesburg, South Africa

Vice President – University Park, Christina Heischmidt, 3L – cmh358@dsl.psu.edu

Most of Christina's studies have focused on international law, majoring in Foreign Affairs and French in undergrad, as well as serving as a French legal translator. By studying abroad in Lyon, France and participating in the Capitals of Europe program, she has developed an appreciation for international law. Christina's leadership experience includes serving as the Director of Public Relations for the Roosevelt Institution Student Think Tank, a nation-wide think tank, in its establishment at the University of Virginia. In that position, she collaborated with other organizations and interested parties to develop policy papers, as well as, organize debates. Christina is also the current Managing Editor of the *Penn State Environmental Law Review*; she organizes and leads all aspects of the law review. Christina hopes to practice law in international trade.



Christina – The Louvre, Paris, France ▶

Personal Goal: To increase interest in international law throughout the entire law school community. ♦ **Countries Visited:** Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Kuwait, Bahrain, Austria, Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, San Marino, Switzerland, Vatican City, Canada, Luxembourg, Mexico, The Bahamas ♦ **A Favorite International Attraction:** Annecy, France (Medieval town and glacial lake in the Alps) ♦ **An Admired International Figure:** Ségolène Royal



▲ Karen – Paris, France

Vice President – Carlisle, Karen Wilson, 3L – knw121@psu.edu

Karen has a wealth of experience with running organizations and serving on executive boards. She is familiar with the operation of the Student Bar Association, the law school's administration, and the protocols for requesting and getting things done. Karen will work with the President and the executive board to implement fundamental processes to ensure the longevity of ILS. Karen, an immigrant, has always been aware of or involved with international affairs. As a member of the executive board, she will work with the membership to create programming that covers the variety of interests of the membership so that everyone will be engaged and actively participate in the organization's programs and events. Karen believes the prospect of the opportunities for the growth and potential of ILS is particularly intriguing and exciting.

Personal Goal: To share what value the wealth and breadth of other cultures can add to our development as citizens of the increasing multi-jurisdiction nature of the law. ♦

Countries Visited: Born in Jamaica; Visited England, France, Canada, Puerto Rico, and Islands of The Bahamas ♦ **A Favorite International Attraction:** The Versailles Palace in Versailles, France ♦ **An Admired International Figure:** Gandhi



▲ Sam – Santa Maria del Mar, Barcelona.

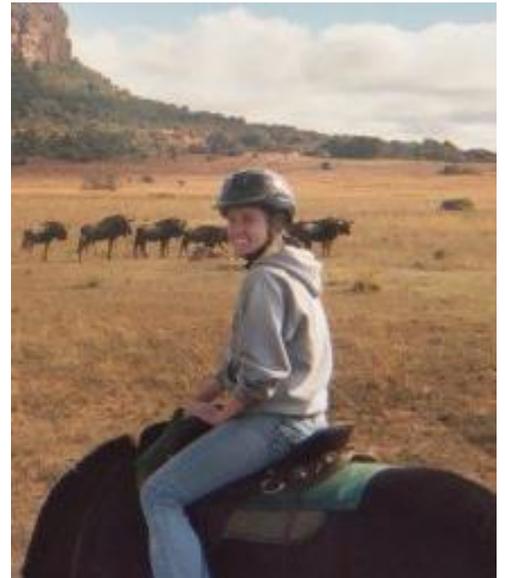
Treasurer – Sam Wiest, 3L, University Park – shw129@psu.edu

Sam is pursuing a joint JD/SIA (School of International Affairs) degree. He has completed two years of law school. This year, Sam will complete his SIA core classes and subsequently complete his last year of law school classes. Sam will be able to serve as a liaison between the two schools and help build connections between the ILS members and the SIA students and faculty. As for international experience, Sam has lived in Barcelona, Spain for two years, interned at the European Parliament, interned in an intellectual property firm in Barcelona, taken several international law courses, and this summer interned at the Organized Crime and Racketeering Section of the Department of Justice. Additionally, Sam served as the 2008/2009 Vice President for the J. Reuben Clark Law Society.

Personal Goal: Help foster a healthy dialogue concerning international law issues within the law school community and provide a forum in which students may learn about the practice of international law. ♦ **Countries Visited:** Canada, Spain, Andorra, France, Belgium, Netherlands ♦ **A Favorite International Attraction:** The architecture of Barcelona, Spain ♦ **An Admired International Figure:** Carles Puyol

Secretary – Meghan Anderson, 2L, Carlisle – mea179@psu.edu

Meghan is originally from Philadelphia, and went to Drew University in North New Jersey where she majored in Psychology and minored in Math.



▲ Meghan – South Africa

When Meghan was younger, she traveled with a student ambassador program to Australia and several countries in Europe. In college, Meghan studied the history and politics of race with a trip to South Africa. She visited sites that illustrated the realities of Apartheid, including Mandela's prison cell and a church with bullet holes from a raided student movement meeting. Meghan is interested comparing legal systems from different countries and potentially practicing abroad. **Personal Goal:** To educate law students in the significance of foreign law on everyday US practice and the legal implications in international issues. ♦ **Countries Visited:** Australia, New Zealand, England, Ireland, Wales, South Africa ♦ **A Favorite International Attraction:** London Eye ♦ **An Admired International Figure:** Mother Teresa

ILS is fortunate to work with two passionate and dedicated individuals, Professor Karen Bysiewicz and Scott Hillkirk, who have committed to helping the organization in its growth and development within the law school and beyond.



ILS Advisor – Professor Karen Bysiewicz

"My life has been transformed by teaching and working abroad. I am committed to sharing what I know of the practice of law in the U.S. and abroad with students here.

I am also excited about the synergies that exist between JD students and the LLM and exchange students at Penn State Dickinson. [T]here is also a great benefit to be gained from more interactions with our international alumni and our JD students. I hope to encourage the ILS to mine these great opportunities!" –Professor Bysiewicz



SIA Liaison – Scott Hillkirk

Scott covered international/national news as part of USA Today's Washington Bureau. He moved to rural Japan to teach children for a year but loved it and stayed for 3 years. Scott most recently headed an international recruiting office for a Japanese corporation in Chicago prior to coming to Penn State.

Scott is currently working for the Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute at the US Army War College and will be at the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs this fall. ♦ **Personal goal:** Find creative and meaningful ways to assist ILS fulfill its mission as part of greater Penn State community. ♦ **Countries Visited:** Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia, Taiwan, Japan, China, Singapore, New Zealand, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama, Guatemala, Mexico, England, Scotland, France, and Canada. ♦ **A favorite international attraction:** Itsukushima Shrine, Miyajima Island, Hiroshima, Japan, "The floating Torii" ♦ **An admired international figure:** Robert H. Jackson, US Supreme Court Justice, Chief Counsel Nuremberg Trials

Pathways, cont.

- Consider opportunities such as volunteering to write position papers on international matters for a Senator.
- Find a good mentor.

The moderator, Mark E. Wojcik, Professor of Law at John Marshall Law School, added the following:

- “Network or not work. It’s your choice.”
- Take advantage of being a student. For example, set up informational interviews to learn about careers.
- Ensure that your resume indicates your interest in international law.

The panel also addressed whether it is important to be fluent in multiple languages, a concern frequently raised by students who are pursuing careers in international law. The panelists agreed that an international lawyer does not necessarily have to learn a client’s language; it is far more important to understand culture and be sensitive to a client’s behaviors, beliefs, customs, and language. Ms. Rozovics recommended Terri Morrison’s book, [Kiss, Bow, and Shake Hands](#).

*The panelists were Gabrielle Buckley, Corporate Practice Area, Vedder Price; Linda Jacobson, Legal Advisor’s Office, U.S. State Department; Michelle J. Rozovics, Rozovics Law Firm, LLC; and Penny Wakefield, Human Rights Practitioner and Advocate.

Opportunities in International Law

The new **DAAD Summer Law School** offers the unique opportunity to receive intensive legal training at the **University of Freiburg**, which hosts one of the most prestigious law faculties in Germany. On June 14, 2010 the Law Summer School starts off with a one-week seminar series on German and European law in Freiburg. After that, students start their individual internships at institutions of their choice. DAAD will provide a scholarship of €650 for the duration of the Summer School. Furthermore, each scholarship holder will receive a lump sum for international travel expenses and a five-day travel card for German Railways. For details, please contact lawingermany@daad.de or visit <http://www.daad.org/page/law/>.

The **DePaul Rule of Law Journal** is a student-run, online publication of DePaul’s International Human Rights Law Institute (IHRLI) committed to advancing the rule of law around the world. The Journal invites authors to submit articles that focus on the theory and practice of building the rule of law. For more information go to http://www.law.depaul.edu/students/organizations_journals/student_orgs/awrol/Home.asp or contact Alexander Konetzki, Editor-in-Chief, at akonetzki@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

The Society has several exciting programs planned for the fall semester:

- Welcome Back Reception
- Iran Roundtable (cosponsored with the School of International Affairs)
- Civil vs. Common Law Systems Panel with DSL LLM Students
- And more!

Stay tuned for more information!

Volunteer CONNECTION

The Society is looking for volunteers to fill the following positions:

- [Director of Marketing and Public Relations](#) (one at each campus): Develop and execute marketing plan for ILS events.
- [Website Content Administrator](#): Work with the DSL support staff to post content on ILS’s page of the law school’s web site.
- [Resource Coordinator](#): Compile and maintain a list of resources and opportunities for students interested in international law.

Contact R. Michelle Boldon at rmb317@psu.edu if you are interested in volunteering.

Share your Ideas

Submit your ideas for events via Westlaw’s TWEN application. Here’s how:

- (1) Log into Westlaw.
- (2) On the Westlaw home page, select the **International Law Society** link under the TWEN COURSES section on the bottom left side.
- (3) Select the **Forums** link in the NAVIGATION section. Use the Forums feature to post programming and event ideas or respond to existing Forum topics.