From the Director
By Professor Ronald A. Brand
Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg
University Professor

As we enter CILE’s 20th year, we welcome another stellar group of LLM, SJD, and JD students to our programs and look forward to celebrating the completion of those 20 years in the fall of 2015. We also pause to look back, not only on the past year, but on the longer term success of a number of CILE programs. The feature article that follows reviews 15 years of CILE use of the Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot as a platform for international legal education and development. We hope you will take the time to read it and reflect with us on the many countries, law schools, and students who have shared that experience with us; and to consider how the progress of that platform might be brought to bear on even more beneficial developments in the future.

Beyond the Vis Moot experience, we share updates on our partnerships around the globe, with special emphasis on what the past year has brought in our cooperation with Moi University School of Law in Eldoret, Kenya. All of these projects have brought opportunities for our students, and we invite you to consider their stories, in their words, which are included in this issue of CILE Notes.

On the back cover, you will note that we also look forward to providing an online version of our LLM program beginning in fall 2015. We already have completed much of the work for the online courses and are excited about this natural extension of CILE into the broader realm of legal education.

In December of 2013, we welcomed Brian Fraile (JD ’13) to the CILE staff as assistant director. Brian worked with CILE extensively as a student, including in Vis Moot training in Istanbul, Turkey, and Abu Dhabi, UAE, and spent fall 2013 teaching at Moi University School of Law as part of our partnership there. While a recent grad, he brings a wealth of experience and skills that have already provided significant benefits to our students.

The Vis Moot as a Platform and a Process for CILE Expansion of International Legal Education

A 1999 Center for International Legal Education (CILE) partnership with the University of Pittsburgh Center for Russian and East European Studies (REES) resulted in a U.S. State Department grant-funded process that has developed into a unique CILE program of legal education. Fifteen years later, a process that began in Donetsk, Ukraine, has touched law students, professors, judges, and practicing lawyers in nearly 20 countries, and continues to grow.

The relationship created in 1999 with Ukraine’s Donetsk National University (DNU) Faculty of Law included training DNU professors and students for the Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot. The 21st Vis Moot, held in Vienna, Austria, in April 2014, brought together student teams from nearly 300 law schools from more than 70 countries to present written and oral arguments in a commercial dispute that involved the application of the UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG) and the law of international arbitration.

At the 2014 Vis Moot, CILE hosted students and faculty from 17 Vis teams who engaged in friendly practice arguments prior to the moot and gathered for a Pitt Consortium dinner during the competition. That dinner brought together teams from Bahrain, Croatia, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kosovo, Oman, the Palestinian Territories, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, and more.
THE VIS MOOT PLATFORM FOR LEGAL EDUCATION

The Vis Moot as a Platform and a Process for CILE Expansion of International Legal Education

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and Pittsburgh. All of those teams had, in some way, benefitted from the CILE process of using the Vis Moot as a platform for international legal education. As Dr. Stefan Kröll, a director of the Moot and professor at Bucerius Law School in Hamburg, Germany, stated at this year’s Vis Moot opening ceremonies in the Vienna Konzerthaus, professors Ronald Brand and Harry Flechtner, working through CILE, have “brought more teams to the moot than anyone else…teaching worldwide and supporting teams worldwide” to advance the “moot spirit.”

CILE and Pitt Law were uniquely positioned when this process began in 1999 to use the Vis Moot as a legal education platform. Professor Flechtner is the leading U.S. scholar on the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG), having now edited the third and fourth editions of Uniform Law for International Sales under the 1980 United Nations Convention, originally authored by Professor John Honnold. Pitt Law’s Journal of Law and Commerce has regularly been one of the premier sources of scholarship and case law translations dealing with the CISG. Pitt Law and CILE have hosted important international conferences on the CISG since 1987. And, the CILE Studies series, published by Oxford University Press, has included important volumes on the CISG.

When CILE included the Vis Moot as part of the original grant activities with DNU, it resulted in one of the first Ukrainian teams in the competition in 2001. When additional U.S. State Department grants funded cooperation with the University of Belgrade, Serbia; Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University, Ukraine; and the University of Pristina, Kosovo; CILE created Vis Moot teams at each of these schools as well. From two Pitt Consortium teams in 2001, to three in 2002, to 17 in 2014, CILE has continued to establish Vis Moot teams and work with law faculties to make the teams self-sustaining, resulting in long-term programs, long-term relationships, and long-term benefits.

Perhaps the best example of how the Vis Moot has provided a platform for growth and development at a single law school is found at the University of Belgrade. Professors Milena Djordjevic and Vladimir Pavic have coached some of the most successful Vis Moot teams. The students from those teams are now regularly the first graduates recruited by the major law firms in Belgrade. What is most impressive is that the University of Belgrade has become the home of a highly regarded arbitration conference and Vis pre-moot, which each year draws to Belgrade accomplished international scholars and arbitrators, as well as teams from more than 50 schools, who are on their way to Vienna.

The process CILE began with State Department support in Ukraine, Serbia, and Kosovo has now been extended in cooperation with the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the U.S. Department of Commerce. After a trip through the Gulf Region with CLDP staff in 2005, Professor Brand recommended using the Vis Moot to develop commercial law and arbitration expertise throughout the Middle East. This resulted in a CLDP contract with CILE to train a team from the University of Bahrain for the 2008 Vis Moot. This was followed with Sultan Qaboos University in Oman (2009); UAE
University in Al-Ain, United Arab Emirates (2010); the University of Qatar, in Doha (2011); and the Universities of Baghdad and Jordan (2012).

When critical mass was reached, CLDP and CILE partnered with the Bahrain Chamber of Dispute Resolution (BCDR) to hold the first Middle East Vis Pre-Moot in 2011. Originally scheduled for Manama, Bahrain, the event was moved to Vienna because of the events of the Arab Spring. Subsequent Middle East Pre-Moots have been held in Muscat, Oman; Abu Dhabi, UAE; and Doha, Qatar. The Pre-Moots have drawn together law schools from the Gulf Region to prepare their Vis Moot teams for the competition in Vienna, as well as to cooperate in curriculum development and outreach to the practicing bar. In 2014, the Pre-Moot included teams from Kabul University in Afghanistan, the University of Alexandria in Egypt, Al-Iraqiya University in Iraq, Kuwait University, the University of Qatar, Dar-Al-Hekma University in Saudi Arabia, and the Faculty of Legal, Political, and Social Sciences of Tunis, Tunisia. These teams were joined in Vienna by teams from Birzeit University in the Palestine Territories, the University of Jordan, and UAE University.

Notably, in 2014, Vis Moot teams from Afghanistan, Iraq, and the Palestinian Territories participated in the Vis competition. CLDP and CILE supported formation of the Afghan and Iraqi teams, with Pitt Law LLM graduate, Moien Odeh (LLM, ’13) organizing and coaching the team from Birzeit University.

The Vis Moot platform, and the process developed by CILE to use that platform as a foundation for multiple legal education purposes, has added to the education of hundreds of students in more than 20 countries, resulted in curricular changes in transition country law schools, created a cadre of talented and well-trained arbitration lawyers throughout the Balkans and the Middle East, created new partnerships in legal education, and—most recently—began to influence the way judges in transition countries perceive international arbitration awards and the treaty obligation to recognize and enforce them.

Professor Brand will once again work with CLDP in training sessions held at the University of Jordan in Amman, Jordan, in October 2014 and February 2015. Mais Abousy, an attorney-advisor at CLDP who has taken on the CLDP responsibilities in the Middle East and overseen its growth to inclusion of the four annual Pre-Moots, has asked CILE and Professor Brand to help add a new dimension to the program. Following the initial fall training session for student teams, a two-day program will be held for Jordanian lawyers, law professors, and judges, at which they will be introduced to the Vis Moot process. This will prepare them to be Pre-Moot arbitrators in February and train them to better use international arbitration in practice. Through this process, Jordanian judges should better understand and trust the international arbitration awards that they may be obligated to recognize and enforce under the United Nations Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards.

One element of CILE’s work with transition country faculty and students on the Vis Moot is, from Professor Brand’s perspective, the most important. Since 2007, Pitt Law students who have competed in the Vis Moot during the second year of their JD studies, have traveled and worked with him to train Middle East teams during their 3L years. While the Vis Moot is an incredible learning experience, and takes students far beyond what their non-moot counterparts experience in legal education, the opportunity to teach international commercial law, international arbitration, and legal writing and oral advocacy skills to students in other cultures takes these Pitt Law students even further in their professional development.

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Pitt Law students who have had this experience in CILE’s cooperation with CLDP include:

**Bahrain 2007–08:**
Kate Drabecki (JD ’08) and Katerina Ossenova (JD ’08)

**Oman 2008–09:**
Elizabeth Hinkle (JD ’09), Esther Mosimann (JD ’09), and Katerina Ossenova (JD ’08)

**UAE 2009–10:**
Marc Coda (JD ’10), Rick Grubb (JD ’10), and Kerry Ann Stare (JD ’10)

**Qatar 2010–11:**
Kristine (Long) Carpenter (JD ’11), Richard Kyle (JD ’11), and Amelia Mathias (JD ’11)

**Istanbul 2011–12:**
Kaitlin (Young) Dewberry (JD ’12), Kimberly (Stains) Karr (JD ’12), and Sarah (Miley) Mueller (JD ’12)

**Istanbul/Abu Dhabi 2012–13:**
Amelia Brett (JD ’13), Eryn Correa (JD ’13), and Brian Fraile (JD ’13)

**Doha 2013–14:**
Janet Checkley (JD ’14) and Krysta Smith (JD ’14)

This process continues as well in 2014–15, with Janet Checkley (JD ’14) scheduled to travel with Professor Brand to Amman, Jordan. The process will come full circle when, also in October 2014, Robert Gyenes (Class of 2015) and Mary Kate Shawley (Class of 2015) will join Katerina Ossenova (JD ’08), who is now an attorney-advisor at CLDP, to help train students from law schools throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo.

Pitt Law students also have benefited from two courses that have resulted from CILE’s use of the Vis Moot as a platform for legal education. In 2010, Pitt Law partnered with the University of Zagreb in Croatia and Touro Law Center in New York to create the Institute in International Commercial Law and Dispute Resolution, a four-week summer study program that takes place in Zagreb and Zadar, Croatia. Students may earn both U.S. and European law school credit in the four-week program that begins with a week of basic international business transactions, follows with a week of international commercial law and a week of international arbitration, and ends with a week of hands-on simulation of an international commercial arbitration in which students present both written and oral submissions on behalf of their clients. The program is, effectively, a Vis Moot “boot camp,” and many students have gone on from the institute to be members of their law school Vis Moot teams. Students have attended from throughout the United States, as well as from other countries, including Australia, Bosnia, Brazil, Croatia, Guatemala, Italy, Kosovo, Oman, and Russia. The institute has presented a very special opportunity to engage in rigorous legal education in a location as pleasant and as beautiful as the Dalmatian coast of Croatia, proving one of CILE’s basic principles: that great thinking, with great people, in a great location, produces great results.

The second course that has resulted from CILE’s Vis Moot focus is in its first offering during the fall of 2014. When Ms. Abousy from CLDP, and Dr. Salah Hadi Saleh Alhashim, the
Director General of Scholarships for the Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education, suggested to Professor Brand in spring 2014 that the Ministry send former Iraqi Vis Moot students to Pitt Law for LLM and SJD degrees, they also discussed having those students return to teach international arbitration in Iraqi law schools. Professor Brand realized that this process required a special course in international arbitration. Thus, in fall 2014, the International Commercial Arbitration course at Pitt Law includes three categories of students. 1) Pitt JD students who have not participated in the Vis Moot will use the course to compete for a position on the 2015 Vis Moot team. Professors Brand and Flechtner will participate in preparing the students, using the 2015 Moot problem as a core element of the course, with every student preparing written memoranda and engaging in oral argument. 2) Pitt JD students who have participated in the Vis Moot will also take part in the course. They will not only deepen their understanding of international arbitration law, but also will help train other JD students for the moot and engage in training of Vis Moot teams in other countries, both on location and through online communication. 3) Finally, foreign LLM students (including the Iraqi students) who have participated in the Vis Moot while studying in their home countries will both help train other students and use the course to prepare a course syllabus, reading materials, and lesson plans in order to return to their home countries to teach international commercial arbitration.

While all of this has extended the influence of CILE throughout the world, one person has managed to reach farther than any other in demonstrating the impact of Pitt Law on international commercial law and arbitration. Each year at the opening ceremonies of the Vis Moot, Professor Flechtner performs his CISG Song, Mootie Blues, and a special new song written especially for the current moot. The more than 2,500 students, professors, and arbitrators assembled at that event are both entertained and educated by Flechtner’s songs. You can be too, at www.cisgsong.info, where you may not only listen to Professor Flechtner, but also consider the many enlightening footnotes to the CISG Song. As with the Institute in Croatia, Professor Flechtner’s musical approach demonstrates that great learning can be combined with an enjoyable experience.

Professor Brand sometimes is asked why his work does not involve more in the area of international human rights. Brand’s response to this question is, “Oh, but this is human rights. No legal system can provide basic needs without a functioning economic system, and having lawyers who can help establish the framework for commercial exchange and for dispute resolution is fundamental. Thus, this process is at the very core of human rights.” Moreover, says Brand, “when you see intense discussions about non-threatening legal issues among students from Belgrade and students from Pristina, and among students from Kyiv and students from Donetsk, and when you see brilliant young women from a law school in Saudi Arabia holding their own with Vis Moot teams from the best law schools in the world, that is human rights.”
CILE Extends Cooperative Relationships in Iraq, Italy, and Kenya

CILE has continued to expand its network of partnerships with foreign institutions and governments. During the 2013–14 academic year, CILE signed memoranda of understanding with Moi University School of Law, the Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education and Cultural Development, and the University of Verona.

The December 2013 Moi-Pitt agreement builds on nearly 15 years of cooperation. This past year saw Brian Fraile (JD ’13) travel to Kenya to teach Legal Research and Writing to the first-year law students in Kenya during the 2013 fall term, and Emily Kinkead spend a summer internship at the Legal Aid Centre of Eldoret (LACE). It also saw the delivery of 600 computer tablets for use in Moi’s first-year curriculum. Those events are cataloged further below. The February 2014 agreement with the Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education and Cultural Development (MHECD) builds on CILE’s work through the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP), more fully described in the preceding article on the CILE Vis Moot platform for international legal education. The agreement was signed during the Fourth Annual Middle East Vis Pre-Moot in Doha, Qatar, and sets the foundation for MHECD sponsorship of Iraqi students in Pitt Law’s LLM program.

Expanding the Pitt-Moi Partnership: Assisting Moi Students and Providing a Platform for Research on Legal Education

At Moi University School of Law in Eldoret, Kenya, located 300 kilometers north of Nairobi, the library is limited and students cannot afford to purchase books that would allow them to read material before class. In 2013–14, CILE assisted in the delivery of 600 computer tablets to Moi University School of Law, so that two first-year courses—Torts and Contracts—might involve material loaded onto the tablets, allowing students to prepare before class. The tablets were purchased at a special rate from Surtab, a Haitian manufacturer established by Pitt Law LLM grad, Ulla Bak (LLM ’05), and her husband, JP Bak. In 2014–15, the tablets will continue to be used in first-year law courses, and also will be used to facilitate path-breaking research in legal education by Pitt Law’s Professor Kevin Ashley.

No Books? No Problem!: Teaching with Tablets in Kenya

By Maurice Oduor, (LLM ’04)

Last year, the Moi University School of Law (MUSOL) embarked on a unique model of pedagogy in the training of future lawyers for Kenya. With the help of our long-time collaborating partner, the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, we acquired more than 600 palm-sized tablet computers as part of a pilot project involving the use of technology in legal education. The tablet computers were sourced from SURTAB, a tech company based in Haiti.

The project was conceived by Professor Ronald Brand and then considered and approved by the MUSOL Board. It involved the development of materials for two selected courses, Torts and Contracts, that would then be uploaded on the tabs for use by students. The materials had to be created in a specific format compatible with, and readable from, the tab. Pitt, through CILE, sponsored two JD students, Shelley Ostrowski (Class of 2015) and Marlene Van Es (Class of 2015), who spent part of their summer 2013
CILE CONTINUES TO EXPAND GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

with us here at MUSOL, helping us to develop materials for the two courses. Marlene worked on Torts, and Shelley on Contracts. They also developed a protocol that could be used to create other courses in future. We fine-tuned and added to the materials in preparation for the teaching that commenced in the 2013 fall term.

Once we had the tabs, we issued them to first-year students. With respect to Torts, I loaded the materials onto the Moi University e-learning portal known as MUSOMI. I required the students to register and access all our learning materials for the course including the outline, assignments and cases. We did a demonstration in class on registration for and use of the platform. The materials were arranged thematically and allowed us to proceed sequentially from one topic to another. At the end of each topic, I issued a test or assignment that I graded.

I found the tabs to be a very convenient method of delivery. It goes without saying that with more than 400 students in any given class, and considering the economic situation of not only the University but our students as well, we have had the perennial problem of lack of reading and teaching resources. As a result, it has been extremely difficult to require students to do any sort of thorough reading beforehand, making it hard— unethical even—to call students to account in terms of preparing for class.

With the tabs, and despite the few teething issues we experienced, I noticed a vast improvement in the level and quality of classroom discussion—especially on the cases. Previously, I relied heavily on dictating notes to students in class, which not only was passive but also uninspiring. With the tabs, all I did was prepare short topical slides, lead my class through them, and then had a deeper engagement with the materials that they had read before class.

Large class numbers have always made grading assignments a nightmarish tedium. They also meant that I could only issue a limited number of assignments at any given time. In MUSOL, it is a requirement that our students sit for at least two continuous assessment tests (CATs) in a course, constituting 30 percent of the grade for that course. With the tabs, I posted up to four assignments with very many questions. This meant that I was able to thoroughly test the students’ understanding of the course and how effective the teaching had been in the entire term. I saved time and energy, not to mention the paper that would have been used for the questions and answers. As for grading, I had a much easier time because I was able to do this online. MUSOMI allows me as the instructor to access and grade my course assignments online. Students receive their marks immediately after the grading via e-mail.

For me, the potential in the tabs lies in not only encouraging faculty to develop and enhance their course materials, but also, and more importantly, in allowing students to engage more actively in the learning process. As I have always told my students, learning law is ultimately a self-directed enterprise calling on students to engage not only their cognitive skills, but also their analytical skills. This enhances their problem-solving skills because it requires them to research, dig deep into legal problems, and consider different permutations of possible solutions. This is not possible without the necessary resources such as legal texts. In a developing country such as ours, the significance of this latest collaborative initiative with Pitt really cannot be overstated.

I should mention also that the tabs were an important factor during the accreditation process for the school last year. In Kenya, any university planning to offer a law degree must be accredited by the Council of Legal Education. One of the biggest challenges we faced previously was how to match the large number of students with the library space and reading materials. We explained to the council that the tabs would allow us to partly address this challenge by pre-loading text books on the tabs and even by facilitating online access to legal databases. In granting us accreditation, the council noted that the tabs would help us address the question of library space and availability of books even as we continued with our library’s construction and expansion.

“The tablet has been a great deal to me. I study more with it as it is portable and I carry it everywhere. It has saved me from buying handouts.”

—Khateeb El-fakii, First Year Class Representative

Mai University first-year students receive their Surtab Tablets
Researching the Development of Legal Argumentation Skills with Tablets in Kenya

Law school students in the U.S. and abroad could benefit if online argument diagramming can successfully help them learn the skills of written legal argumentation. When Professor Ronald Brand appealed to Pitt Law faculty for online educational content to be delivered via the tablet computers at Moi University School of Law, Professor Kevin Ashley and his team of LRDC researchers, including Intelligent Systems Program Graduate Student Researcher Mohammad Falakmasir, developed a learning module to teach legal argumentation skills. The module comprises nine lessons (e.g., Introduction to Planning a Legal Argument in Support of a Claim, Supporting Arguments Pro and Con with Legal Rules and Citations, Applying Precedential Rule to Facts with Argument by Analogy). The lessons focus on making arguments in a hypothetical scenario involving the duty to aid developed by Pitt Law Professors Teresa Brostoff and Ann Sinsheimer. The lessons lead students to apply legal rules and cases involving Pennsylvania tort law, a pedagogically useful exercise for Kenyan law students because Kenya is also a common law jurisdiction. The lessons will be deployed in the 2015 spring term via the Moi Law School’s Moodle-based e-learning platform, MUSOMI, to 480 Moi students in three sections of the Torts course taught by Professor Maurice Odour. The large number of students should allow objective assessment of whether and how well students learn with the argument diagramming approach. (This work is supported by NSF award 1122504, “DIP: Teaching Writing and Argumentation with AI-Supported Diagramming and Peer Review). ♦

One Last International Experience—As Part of the Pitt-Moi Partnership

By Brian Fraile (JD ’13)

When I enrolled at Pitt Law, I had the vague notion that I wanted to study the fields of law that governed international commerce, but I had no idea what that meant, or the myriad possibilities that the school could provide to enhance my learning outside the classroom. During my three years of law school, I was fortunate to take countless trips sponsored by CILE to distant places such as Abu Dhabi, Brussels, Croatia, and Vienna. As my third year of law school was winding down, I still hadn’t quite put my wanderlust behind me. Little did I know, there was one last experience that would present itself to me before I had to move on with my career and life outside law school.

Professor Brand, through CILE’s partnership with Moi University School of Law in Eldoret, Kenya, presented me with the unique opportunity to take a visiting lectureship at Moi for the fall term after my graduation. Having spent a summer slaving away with bar exam prep, I did not hesitate to accept this one last opportunity to see a new corner of the world and meet an incredible group of new friends.

Less than a week after finishing my bar exams, and having taken a brief moment to relax, I boarded a plane to Kenya to embark on a new adventure. After several connections, and a four hour bumpy bus ride from Nairobi, I was warmly welcomed to the small town of Eldoret by Dean Henry Lugulu and Senior Lecturer Maurice Odour (LLM ’04). The faculty and staff at Moi were incredibly helpful in getting me settled in and accustomed to the East African lifestyle.

Despite the friendliness of everyone I met, I was intimidated about what it would be like to teach Legal Analysis and Writing to three classes that totaled almost 500 first-year law students. My apprehensions couldn’t have been more unwarranted. The students I had were some of the most friendly and attentive students I had ever met. Despite being in their first semester out of secondary school, everyone in my classes was ready and willing to take on the ambitious course plan that I had laid out for them.

As the semester flew by, I was shocked to see how easily and excitedly the students followed along with the same materials that I and my first-year classmates at Pitt had struggled with three years earlier. When the semester came to a close, I was confident that
they had absorbed everything I had attempted to teach them, all despite my quick-paced lectures and complete lack of conversational Swahili. My impression of their understanding was only reinforced when I spent my final week in Kenya grading the 500 handwritten essays that they completed during their final exam.

Looking back now, I fondly remember the many impressive and intelligent students and staff I met during my time in Kenya. Having moved on from this experience to take the position of CILE assistant director, I only hope that I can eventually make it back to Eldoret to reunite with the friends I made while in Africa and continue to reinforce the strong partnership between Pitt Law and Moi University.

By Emily Kinkead (Class of 2016)

Traveling to Kenya was never my intention. When I was an undergrad, I never did a study abroad and it was my greatest regret, despite four otherwise wonderful years bursting with activities. I knew I wanted to spend the first summer of law school remedying my lament. Like most students, however, my mind was occupied with dreams of interning in Europe or Australia, spending the weekends taking trains to every country I could, or lounging on the beach and snorkeling. Oh, the possibilities. Then the question came that crashed me back into reality: “What do you want to do with your law degree and how does an internship abroad help you achieve those goals?” Well, gee, I hadn’t really considered that. I just wanted to go abroad.

And that was how I was introduced to the Legal Aid Centre of Eldoret (LACE) in Eldoret, Kenya. LACE is a pro bono law office that was born out of the recognition by a hospital and its partners that it was not enough to treat people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) for just their medical ailments. PLWHA also suffered a significant stigma in society that could lead to the denial of their property rights, inheritance, child support, or even their basic human rights. PLWHA had substantial concerns that could only be resolved through legal avenues. LACE is, thus, based out of Moi University Teaching and Referral Hospital and has since expanded its services from PLWHA and their families to also serve victims of sexual, gender, and domestic violence.

I was graciously awarded both a Nordenberg Fellowship and the Judge Genevieve Blatt Nationality Room Scholarship, so I packed my bags and headed off to Kenya. I would live in Eldoret for two months, basically alone. It is, however, important that I mention my Botswanan housemate who liked to blast Mariah Carey at 9 a.m. and sing along at the top of his lungs. Being otherwise on my own, though, I threw myself into Kenya—new things, new food, new people, and traveling every place I could.

I was able to observe so many differences between the Kenyan judicial system and the system in the United States. In Kenya, no one specializes in law because while there are more than 40 million people living in Kenya, there are only about 10,000 attorneys and only about 6,000 of those are actively practicing.

Kenya, in using the British system, has no jury trials. The courts have no preset schedule so all plaintiffs and defendants must arrive at 9 a.m., when court begins on their court date, and wait until their case is called. This could be all day. Kenya has a separate, religious court for Muslim citizens that decides civil matters like divorce or child support. The magistrates of these courts rarely have any legal background. Case files are almost exclusively handwritten.

What I found more striking than the differences were the similarities. There is court backlog, but the people were resilient in their pursuit of justice. There is corruption and bias, but there also is hope for reform. There is victim-blaming, but there is outrage at such tactics. There is theft, assault, rape, and murder. Children are abused and neglected. But there are people dedicating their lives to make sure not only that people are brought to justice, but that those people are treated fairly by the justice system.

My time at LACE exposed me to the best and worst of Kenya. Our countries are so different and yet so immeasurably similar. I gained insights and inspiration regarding problems in the United States by observing Kenyan solutions. My life is forever altered because of the people I met and the experiences I had there. I never intended to go to Kenya, but you know what they say about intentions.
Big Law in a Small Country

By Robert Gynes (Class of 2015)

Before arriving at Pitt Law, what I thought I could do with a law degree was quite limited. If I go to Pittsburgh, I’ll have to work in Pittsburgh, right? Well, now I stand corrected—this summer’s internship showed me how naïve that thought was.

I am first and foremost grateful to CILE and the LLM program connections of Pitt Law, without which this summer would have never happened. I met Iva Grgić (LLM ’14) at a CILE event more than a year ago, and we quickly became friends. It turned out we had mutual interests: I was looking for a way to work in the Balkans and, as a Croatian law student, Iva had already worked for a few firms in Zagreb. She graciously passed along my name, and soon I was interviewing with a number of Croatian firms.

This summer, I was a legal intern for Wolf Theiss Rechtsanwälte GmbH in their Zagreb office. The firm itself is Austrian–based with about 350 attorneys in a dozen offices across Central and Eastern Europe. The Zagreb office has about 30 attorneys, many of whom must switch between English, Croatian, and German several times a day.

As the only foreign intern in the last few years, I didn’t know what to expect. But as I arrived, I was nothing less than astonished at how well developed their internship program was. I was paired with mentors who quickly involved me in a great variety of projects. My entire summer was filled with interesting and substantive work. I researched and drafted non-compete clauses, distribution agreements, and even spent a few days finding a way to register a rejected trademark under EU law. Because Croatia has only been in the EU for one year, the legal landscape in the nation is changing, and many of my projects involved utilization of the new EU regulations by foreign-owned businesses.

One surprising aspect was how the work was simultaneously so familiar and so different. I learned about mergers and acquisitions and intellectual property in the United States at Pitt, but working on such projects under EU and civil law was something entirely new. This internship gave me the hands-on experience—and I have to say confidence—to do legal work on matters which I would have never come across in law school.

Another interesting aspect was the role this small office played in the Croatian legal landscape. Because Croatia is such a small market, and given the Austrian firm’s overall reputation within Europe, many high-profile legal issues came through this office. Many of the clients were foreign corporations, some with long-standing footprints in the country. After a while, it seemed that every big news story in Croatia somehow involved the work of Wolf Theiss, and that made every project seem more important. It also opened my eyes to what globalization, the EU, and international law mean in practice. In such a small country, it’s easier to see the interaction between corporations and governments across borders. This summer I felt like a business class was added to my legal education.

My internship was extremely valuable in allowing me to strengthen my legal experience in the Balkans while gaining skills and experience which are directly transferable to a U.S. firm. I was able to work on high profile mergers and acquisitions and other corporate work which I would only be able to do at a select number of firms back home. This summer has been both unexpected and eye-opening; I am grateful to Pitt Law’s LLMs and CILE for allowing me to broaden my legal prospects in ways I never thought imaginable.

In Kosovo: The Cutting Edge of Contract Law

By Christopher Shook (Class of 2016)

Ask any expat to describe international development, and chances are they will mention just how rewarding the work is. In a way, this phrase recalls a certain irony: that the one who goes to aid earns the dearest of lessons, while those who are to receive give generously.

Thanks to the University of Pittsburgh’s Nordenberg Fellowship, this summer I had the opportunity to intern at the USAID Kosovo Contract Law Enforcement Program with Checchi and Company Consulting. When researching international internships, it became clear that Pitt Law’s strong ties to Pristina, Kosovo, would provide the best chance to make a meaningful contribution. In working alongside Pitt Law alumni Zana Berisha (LLM ’10) and Diella Rugova (LLM ’13) at the Contract Law Enforcement Program, I gained exposure to the fascinating intricacies of the legal climate in Kosovo.

The program sought to assist the newborn nation in its continuing recovery and to advance commercial legal reforms. Our team was responsible for such issues as improving the enforcement of judicial judgments, and developing the framework of contract and commercial law. In my favorite project during the internship, I was tasked with crafting a series of
memos on Kosovo administrative law procedures for creditors and debtors. It was exciting to know that my analysis would help influence new legal regimes on property law and enforcement procedure, with the potential to support U.S. Embassy personnel or even senior diplomatic staff.

The Kosovo legal system presented a stimulating blend of civil law and common law approaches, as experts and development organizations from the United States, Germany, and other European nations vied to make the greatest impact.

For me, courses such as Legislation and Regulation and an ad hoc knowledge of comparative law were extremely valuable in understanding the context of our program’s endeavors in Kosovo. The cross-functional projects challenged me to understand not only the nuances of political economy, but also innovative practices seen only at the cutting edge of international business law.

I am grateful to have been a part of the “critical mass” of Pitt Law’s legacy in Kosovo and the Balkans. My internship experience in Pristina was overwhelmingly positive and made possible thanks to the dedication and support of Brian Fraile, Gina Huggins, and Professor Ronald Brand. In living in a new part of the world, meeting diverse people, and working on engaging issues, this summer greatly advanced my personal and professional goals. I left Kosovo invigorated, but cautiously optimistic. I know there remains a lot of work to do amidst uncertainty about the country’s future. To that end, I highly encourage fellow students who find themselves curious about international law to make use of the many resources presented by CILE and to pursue an internship abroad—particularly in Kosovo.

A Summer at the Mexican Film Institute
By Nicholas Tomsho (Class of 2016)

This summer, I received a Nordenberg Summer Fellowship from CILE to work as a legal intern with the Instituto Mexicano de Cinematografia (the Mexican Film Institute, or IMCINE) in Mexico City. The institute is a federal governmental organization charged with fostering Mexico’s national film industry by providing assistance to Mexican filmmakers in funding, production, postproduction, promotion, and legal support. My position was with the Department of International Events and Programs, which primarily facilitates the screening and promotion of Mexican films at international film festivals and their distribution in foreign markets.

This internship was not arranged through an existing internship abroad program. I reached out to IMCINE by e-mail and phone with the help of CILE staff and was offered the position. This did not include any assistance with housing or transportation. I arranged to stay with a host family via homestaybooking.com and purchased a MetroBus account card once in the city for transportation.

My primary internship duty was the review of international licensing agreements to distribute the Institute’s coproduced films outside of Mexico. These contracts were primarily between the institute and various television networks and online streaming services. Generally, the review included due diligence, such as proofreading and issue-spotting, as well as some translation work and original drafting to include liability-limiting clauses or suggested alternative terms.

Most of the contracts were in English, for distribution in the United States, although a significant number were in Spanish. Nearly all office interactions were in Spanish which proved difficult, especially toward the beginning of my stay. I often had difficulty understanding spoken instructions, but gradually became more accustomed to functioning full-time in Spanish. This internship would have been impossible to conduct without an already advanced background in the Spanish language.

I also drafted an agreement for international film sales agents to receive grants from a government fund, researched conflicts of law between Mexico and clients’ home countries, and participated in contract negotiation with Anglophone clients. I attended a screening of a then-unreleased documentary in the final stages of postproduction and a public exhibition of 2014 short films. I am currently working with Stephanie Dangel, executive director of Pitt Law’s Innovation Practice Institute, to interest the Three Rivers Film Festival in IMCINE productions to be screened this year.

While the working environment was informal, I was able to keep up-to-date with contract negotiation processes and to see which of my suggestions and edits were kept in the subsequent drafts that were sent to clients.

During my off time, I enjoyed exploring Mexico City and took several weekend day trips to archaeological sites in the surrounding area. After my internship was over, I flew to Cancun and spent the final weekend visiting the Chichén Itzá and Tulum archaeological zones.
Getting to Court in Ethiopia

By Ruth Guyasa (Class of 2016)

My summer internship at Demissie Management Consultants, a law firm in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, was an experience in overcoming the difficulties of a developing country. While I had expected a smooth and relatively easy entry into Ethiopian legal practice, the reality was quite different. While my Amharic language skills are good, and Amharic is the working language of the courts in Ethiopia, I was not fully prepared to be handed the Ethiopian Code of Civil Procedure, Civil Code, and Commercial Code on the first day and be able to work easily with them. The current codes are over 50 years old, with the Civil Procedure Code based on English common law and everything else (substantive law) based on French law.

I spent the first few weeks in the office just familiarizing myself with the codes. Luckily, there was also an intern from Addis Ababa University who helped me with Amharic legal terms. We were assigned our first case together, and worked along with the senior partners on a multinational trade dispute. The case had been going on for more than three years, with literally little to no discovery having been done.

Since Ethiopia is technically a civil law country, discovery is completely different from what we are used to in the United States. Getting evidence is a lot harder. Attorneys are completely prohibited from communicating with their adversaries and cannot ask for the production of documents. The only method to obtain such material is by motion, and it is usually not granted. For this reason, attorneys cannot be fully prepared and have to think and respond on the spot since most evidence is produced during trial.

For this and other reasons, clients often prefer arbitration. Our case was assigned first to arbitration, but that was not productive either. The ad hoc arbitration resulted in significant expense for arbitrators who had many other things to do. After two years, the case was referred to the federal high court.

Our first appearance in court was set for a Tuesday early morning, and we were told to be there no later than 7:30 am. Traffic in Addis Ababa at that time of the day (or any time of the day for that matter) is horrible. I lived about six miles from the courthouse and it took me over an hour to get there. The area around the courthouse is a construction site, and it was raining. There was mud and puddles of water everywhere. There was no parking lot for attorneys at the courthouse so we parked far away and walked. It would have been okay if there were sidewalks, but there were none.

When we finally reached the courthouse, we saw a building that was very run down and just plain dangerous. Right next to it there is a nice new building guarded by the federal police, and I was told it is to become the new courthouse. Even though it has been completed for several years, they still have not moved the courts to the new building.

Inside the building, more than one hundred people were chaotically scattered in front of different doors. The senior attorney walked up to a window and asked which courtroom we were to be in, and was told to wait in line to find out. This took another 15 minutes or so. Our courtroom was a medium-sized courtroom, with bench seats filled with people. In the front two rows, there were several attorneys seated wearing their gowns and waiting for their cases to be called.

The judge looked to be in his mid-20s, and was surrounded by piles of folders, looking very uncomfortable. In Ethiopia, judges are appointed straight out of college (law school is just a bachelor’s degree) without any experience. Unlike the judges, most of the attorneys are quite experienced. The result is a fair degree of animosity or misunderstanding in the attorney-judge relationship.

We listened as several other cases were called, the parties appeared, the judge evaluated the dossier, and the parties were given another date to appear. Nothing seemed to get done, and the frustration was apparent in the courtroom. At almost one o’clock, our case had not been called, and the judge was ready for lunch. We were told to reconvene in an hour. When we returned to the courthouse in an hour, we were told there was no electricity and we had to come back the next day. This was really frustrating considering that it was still daylight and there were several windows in the courtroom. Even then, in a country where electricity is lost almost every day pretty much, everyone has a generator and it is hard to believe a courthouse did not have one.

When we returned to the courthouse the next day, luckily those of us who were supposed to be before the judge on Tuesday were given priority. However, the judge did not even know what the case was about. He opened the dossier, asked the attorneys what the case was about, and rescheduled oral argument for another day in September.

As frustrating as that experience was, the internship was a great experience. I enjoyed working next to the senior attorneys drafting contracts and writing complaints and answers. The office atmosphere was great. It was very laid back and welcoming, which makes going to work every day even more enjoyable.
From My Desk to the African Leaders’ Summit

By Janet Checkley, (JD ’14)

My experience working as an intern at the Solidarity Center in Washington, D.C., not only stretched and challenged me in ways I could not have anticipated, but culminated in a set of experiences and opportunities I had never imagined would come my way.

On my second day as an intern, I was handed my scope of work: a broad research assignment about the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). I was tasked with, first, identifying the major strengths and weaknesses of the legislation; then, drilling down into the labor provisions contained within the eligibility criteria in the law, and examining their effectiveness; and finally, producing a set of recommendations for changes to the language for the implementation of the law in regard to the labor provisions, which the Solidarity Center would put forward to Congress in anticipation of the law’s impending reauthorization. This was an area that the Solidarity Center had never meaningfully engaged in before, and I would be helping the organization blaze a trail into some new territory and build its capacity in trade policy analysis and advocacy.

Although I had a good deal of knowledge and experience in worker rights and labor law when I began my internship, I had only limited knowledge of trade law. Thus, feeling slightly panicked and unprepared, I spent the next week giving myself a minor crash course in trade law and policy and the global context in which I would have to frame my research. Upon launching into the substantive research about AGOA, it became clear that the Solidarity Center, as an international labor advocate with partner organizations operating on the ground in AGOA-beneficiary countries, had a unique and powerful voice to add to the conversation around AGOA’s reauthorization.

None of us anticipated the snowball effect of the work we were doing, but once the ball was rolling, there was no stopping it. After putting together our findings and recommendations, and presenting them to various members of Congress, we realized we were joining the conversation at a critical moment: on the eve of the historic U.S.-African Leaders Summit, and at a time when many important players in the implementation of AGOA (including USAID, USTR, and the Department of Labor) were considering how to improve and enhance AGOA. Finally, one last element fell into place that made the Solidarity Center’s voice in the conversation all the more critical: in April, Swaziland became the first country to face losing its AGOA eligibility on the basis of ongoing and sustained egregious labor rights violations. Because of this event, the labor issue suddenly took center stage in the debate around how to improve AGOA. The Solidarity Center’s input became vital and sought after. The activity of the organization culminated in three major products: 1) an official set of recommendations, coproduced by the AFL-CIO and the Solidarity Center, published and distributed widely in the run-up to the U.S.-African Leaders Summit; 2) an official side panel titled Promoting Decent Work, held during the summit and created through a partnership with the Department of Labor: the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor; and the Bureau of International Labor Affairs; and 3) a joint statement between the AFL-CIO and the International Trade Union Confederation-Africa (ITUC-Africa), describing their partnership in regard to development and progress in Africa and particularly with respect to improving AGOA.

I was lucky enough to be a part of all of this activity from its very beginning, right up through the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit. I started out simply sitting at a desk doing research and writing up my findings; soon, I was asked to facilitate and conduct meetings with members of Congress on Capitol Hill about AGOA and its implications for workers; and finally, I found myself aiding in the creation of the joint recommendations with the AFL-CIO, helping to facilitate and coordinate the visit of almost 40 trade union leaders from all over Africa for participation in the summit. I was even afforded the opportunity to create and chair a panel of international labor activists for a CSO Summit held in conjunction with the official White House events. What started as a somewhat vague research assignment about a trade law I had never even heard of, thus followed one of the most unpredictable and unlikely paths imaginable. It was an absolute joy to be a part of, and the entire undertaking by the Solidarity Center was an effort to which I was proud to contribute at every step along the way. #
**A Semester with the Department of State and the Vis Moot**

*By Krysta Smith (JD ’14)*

I spent my last semester at Pitt Law as an extern in Washington, D.C., through Pitt Law’s Semester in D.C. Program. For four months, I worked in the Office of Private International Law, which is part of the Office of the Legal Adviser at the U.S. Department of State. My externship was an extremely educational and beneficial experience that thoroughly complemented my legal education. I conducted extensive research on international commercial mediation, online dispute resolution, recognition and enforcement of foreign judgments, and various other private international law subjects. I had the opportunity to attend public meetings and conference calls with experts in the field from around the country.

I also participated in the UNCITRAL Arbitration and Conciliation Working Group Meeting at the United Nations in New York, where the Transparency Convention was completed. This was my second UNCITRAL Working Group experience. In May of 2013, I attended the Online Dispute Resolution Working Group Session in New York as a member of the CILE observer delegation. The opportunity to attend two different Working Group Meetings, gave me insight into how different groups of people work and how the various stages in the process of international negotiations are completed.

In addition to my externship in Washington, D.C., I also had hands-on experience working with teams in the Pitt Law Consortium for the 21st Annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot (the Vis Moot). With my colleague, Janet Checkley, we advised three teams who were participating in the Vis Moot throughout the school year. In the fall, we corresponded directly with the teams from Iraq, Egypt, and Palestine, assisting them in formulating arguments and drafting their memoranda.

My most rewarding experience came in the spring of this year, when I attended the Fourth Willem C. Vis Middle East Pre-Moot as an adviser. Once in Qatar, I had the opportunity to have a hands-on role in the education of the students by presenting various presentations on oral argument and the Vis Moot more generally. I quickly realized that our role was much larger than we had imagined. The students were so willing to learn and absorb any information we had to share. It was such a humbling and rewarding experience. These students have so much potential and are so bright; I honestly believe they will change the world.

In April, my work with the students continued during the Vis Moot in Vienna, Austria. Janet and I organized and facilitated the Pitt Law Consortium Practice Rounds held at the offices of Baker & McKenzie. During the moot, I had the responsibility and privilege to attend countless arguments by our teams, and to provide support and feedback to assist their learning process throughout the Vis Moot. I can truly say that, through CILE, I received more than I ever could have hoped for from my legal education.

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**Stephen Zimmerman Discusses Challenges World Bank Faces with Fighting Corruption**

On September 24, 2013, Stephen Zimmerman, director of operations for the World Bank Integrity Vice Presidency, spoke at the School of Law on challenges facing the World Bank in fighting corruption. The event was organized by the Dick Thornburgh Forum for Law and Public Policy and cosponsored by CILE.

**Aandahl and Martin-Nagle Headline Pitt Law International Women of Distinction Series**

Two Pitt Law alumnae returned to the School of Law during the fall of 2013 to speak with students about their paths to international careers in law in CILE programs cosponsored by the International Law Society and Pitt Law Women’s Association. On September 30, Nicole (Breland) Aandahl (JD ’01) reviewed her career in nuclear energy and aerospace industries and government. Aandahl, who is now deputy chief administrative officer and assistant corporate secretary for EADS North America, has built an extensive career in national security, export control, and nonproliferation law and policy in both government and industry. Before joining the U.S. defense industry, Aandahl worked for the U.S. Departments of Defense and Energy. She served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy (OSD/P) as assistant for nonproliferation and counter-proliferation policy. Prior to joining OSD/P, Aandahl served as a foreign affairs specialist in the Office of Export Control Policy and Cooperation at the National Nuclear Security Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, where she specialized in
nuclear export controls and nonproliferation, regional nuclear proliferation export control policies, and technology security. At the time of her talk, Aandahl served as deputy chief administrative officer and assistant corporate secretary at EADS North America. Prior to that appointment, Aandahl served as chief of staff to the CEO. Aandahl began her career with EADS North America in the Trade and Export Department as a licensing and compliance officer and later as acting director of compliance. In early 2014, Aandahl joined Hilton Worldwide as their assistant corporate secretary.

On October 15, Renee Martin-Nagle (JD ’84), now with the Environmental Law Institute at George Washington University, shared her journey from a single-parent law student to the aerospace industry, and back to legal education. For 25 years Martin-Nagle served as U.S. general counsel for European aircraft manufacturers. During the first four years, she was the sole in-house lawyer and corporate secretary for both Aerospatiale Helicopter Corporation and Aerospatiale General Aviation, before moving to Airbus Americas in 1990. She retired from Airbus Americas in 2011 as general counsel, chief compliance officer, head of environmental affairs, corporate secretary, and a member of the board of directors. For 23 of her 25 years in aviation, she was the only female executive. While in aviation, Martin-Nagle was quite active in industry groups, serving as chair of the ABA Forum on Air and Space Law, legal counsel to the Aero Club of Washington, board member and secretary of Women in Aviation, and advisory board member of the International Aviation Women’s Association. Since 2011, Martin-Nagle has been pursuing independent, pro bono research and writing as a visiting scholar at the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, D.C., while also honing journalistic skills as a free-lance writer with OOSKAnews, a global water publication. With OOSKAnews, Martin-Nagle has been the official chronicler of water conferences sponsored by the governments of Germany and Abu Dhabi, and also has been conducting interviews with global water VIPs for publication by the Singapore Public Utilities Board.
On February 4, 2014, and March 4, 2014, members of the 2014 LLM class continued the tradition of educating the law school community about rule of law challenges in their home countries. This year’s series covered recent issues in Ukraine, Tunisia, Palestine, and Kenya.

On February 4, Taras Shablii (LLM ’14) and Zvenyslava Opeida, SJD candidate, both Ukrainian nationals, discussed recent developments regarding the Euromaidan movement and the concerns facing the then-sitting government and the Ukrainian people. The presentation provided a fresh perspective on the civil unrest and a better understanding of the sentiments of the Ukrainian populace during ongoing developments.

On March 4, a second set of LLM students presented issues from Tunisia, Palestine, and Kenya. Jihene Ferchichi (LLM ‘14) discussed the newly ratified Constitution of Tunisia, Khalil Alwazir (LLM ‘14) presented issues regarding the Arab-Israeli Conflict Negotiations and how they relate to Palestine’s bid for independence, and Nicholas Wambua Ngumbi (LLM ‘14) discussed the International Criminal Court trials of Kenya’s president, Uhuru Kenyatta, and deputy president, William Ruto.

Rule of Law Series Highlights Pitt Law LLM Presentations of Home Country Legal Issues

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Nuala Mole, a human rights lawyer and advocate who founded the AIRE Centre, a human rights and advocacy organization in 1993, taught a special intensive course in European Human Rights in October 2013. Her course covered the new institutional framework for human rights in Europe; the European Convention on Human Rights in the Western Balkans; European human rights for commercial lawyers; and hot topics in European human rights litigation. The last category included recent cases on immigration and asylum, extraordinary rendition, prisoner voting rights, and extra-territoriality and military operations. On October 17, she lectured to the public on “European Human Rights for Commercial Lawyers.” Mole has conducted training for the Council of Europe, the European Commission, and the AIRE Centre for judges, public officials, lawyers, and NGOs in 40 of the 47 Member States of the Council of Europe.

Rist Returns from ASIL to Speak on International Careers

On October 24, 2013, D. Wes Rist (JD ’05), former assistant director of CILE, and now director of education and research for the American Society of International Law, returned to Pitt Law to speak with students about how to prepare for a career in international law. Rist discussed résumé building, networking, internships, and study abroad opportunities with the students.

Professor Hamoudi on “Negotiating in Civil Conflict”

On January 23, 2014 Professor Haider Ala Hamoudi spoke at the School of Law on his recently published book, “Negotiating in Civil Conflict.” Professor Hamoudi argues in his book that the terms of the Iraqi Constitution are sufficiently capacious to be interpreted in a variety of ways, allowing the document to appeal to the country’s three main sects despite their deep disagreements.

CILE and Global Solutions Pittsburgh Host High School Moot Court

The Fifth Annual High School Moot International Criminal Court (ICC) Competition was held at the School of Law on April 11 and 12, 2014. Cosponsored by CILE and Global Solutions Pittsburgh, the event drew 28 students from four schools to present arguments before the ICC in a mock proceeding. The competition gives high school students an introduction to the work of the ICC and exposes them to how important international human rights issues are dealt with within the international criminal justice context. The problem for the competition was written by Pitt Law 2L, Robert Gyenes.
Stone Returns as Assistant Director of National Intelligence for 21st McLean Lecture

On March 31, 2013, CILE hosted the 21st Annual McLean Lecture on World Law, with Corin R. Stone (JD ’98), the assistant director of national intelligence for policy and strategy in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI), speaking on “National Security and Intelligence in the 21st Century.” Stone oversees the formulation and implementation of intelligence community policy and strategy on the full range of intelligence issues. She also is the ODNI lead for the closure and disposition of detainees at the Guantanamo Bay naval base and provides leadership for ODNI and IC information sharing initiatives.

Before joining ODNI, Stone was an attorney adviser in the Office of the Legal Adviser at the U.S. Department of State. She served in Iraq, first as an associate general counsel in the Coalition Provisional Authority and then as the first legal adviser to U.S. Ambassador John Negroponte and the new U.S. Embassy in Baghdad. While at the State Department, she also worked as an attorney adviser for the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, as the special assistant to Legal Adviser William H. Taft IV, and in the State Department’s Legal Office, where she handled international claims and investment disputes and represented the U.S. government before the Iran–United States Claims Tribunal in The Hague. The McLean Lecture was cosponsored by Global Solutions Pittsburgh and Sherrard, German, Kelly P.C. 

Todd Pappasergi and Dan Giavonelli from Global Solutions Pittsburgh with Corin Stone and Professor Brand

Pitt Law’s 2014 Jessup Moot court team, from left to right: Khalil Alwazir, Scott Fellmeth, Matthew McCullough, and Denise Attar, C. with Iva Grgic, team coach
Conflicts in a Conflict is Fifth Volume of the CILE Studies Series Published by Oxford University Press

On May 28, 2014, Oxford University Press released the fifth volume in the CILE Studies series, Conflicts in a Conflict: A Conflict of Laws Case Study on Israel and the Palestinian Territories, by Professor Michael Karayanni, the Bruce W. Wayne Chair in International Law at the Faculty of Law of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, provides an in-depth look at conflict of laws issues in conflict territories. The book outlines and analyzes the legal doctrines instructing the Israeli courts in private and civil disputes involving the Occupied Palestinian Territories of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, since 1967 until the present day.

Professor Curran is Made Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques

On June 3, 2014, Pitt Law Professor Vivian Curran was made a Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques (Order of Academic Palms) by the government of France. The award, originally founded by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1808, recognizes distinguished academics and figures in French culture and education. It was bestowed on Curran by the Consul General of France.

Instrumental in promoting the teaching of law courses in foreign languages, Curran instituted the Languages for Lawyers program at Pitt Law, a course system designed to facilitate communication between lawyers and foreign clients and to teach foreign languages in a legal context. Curran’s class, teaching French in a legal context, was the first of its kind in the country. Cultural exchange is a key component of Curran’s instruction and a critical element for an increasingly globalized world. For the past eight years, Curran has worked with a group of French and American judges at the Collège de France on the internationalization of law.

In addition to her many English-language publications, Curran publishes frequently in French law journals—work that was recognized with her election in 2013 to the Société Française de Législation Comparée (French Society of Comparative Legislation). She was also decorated in 2007 with one of the highest honors in the Republic of Austria for her work as the United States appointee to the Austrian General Settlement Fund Committee for Nazi-era property compensation.

Professor Curran Offers Unique International Arbitration Seminar in French

Professor Vivian Curran has for three years offered her International Arbitration Seminar with all instruction in the French language. The course has a dual goal: to teach international commercial arbitration while also improving the French language abilities of students. Professor Curran has developed a French-English glossary of arbitration terms to assist students in their readings. The course is given in French, with attention to students’ varying linguistic levels. Through texts written by French legal writers, the course also is an introduction to the civil-law system that prevails throughout continental Europe. Students are given the opportunity to participate in a moot court run by Sciences Po in Paris, and to write a memorandum for the moot instead of a traditional seminar paper. Students in the course have done an outstanding job, each year progressing from among more than 80 initial teams to be one of 16 semi-finalist teams. In many years, Pitt Law has provided the only non-Canadian North American team in the competition. The seminar also has helped students to find summer internships and permanent positions at major international law firms.
Ali Hayder Al Dabbagh (Iraq) earned a bachelor of laws from Baghdad University School of Law in 2014. He competed in the Willem C. Vis Commercial Arbitration Moot Court and the Middle East Pre-Moot for two years with the University of Baghdad and went on to serve the Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education as a coach for the Vis Moot. Al Dabbagh has also completed an internship with Al Tamimi & Co. in Baghdad. He is the recipient of a full scholarship from the Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research.

Ammar Almuraee (Saudi Arabia) received his bachelor's degree in law from Um Al-Qura University in Makkah, Saudi Arabia. He worked as a trainee lawyer in Saudi Arabia and then relocated to Pittsburgh in order to improve his English language skills. Almuraee is the recipient of a fully funded scholarship from the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Nnenna Anozia (Nigeria) received her bachelor of laws from the University of Benin in 2009 and her post-graduate diploma in law from the Nigerian Law School in 2011. She has worked at various law firms in Lagos, Nigeria, and is a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Anozia is the recipient of an HJ Heinz Fellowship awarded by the Global Studies Center (GSC).

Jose Carlos Ariet Cheni (Cuba/Spain) received his bachelor of laws from the Universidad de Las Palmas in Gran Canaria, Spain, in 2008. After becoming a member of Ilustre Colegio de Abogados de Madrid, he represented clients in complex civil litigation involving corporate claims and financial claims with the law firm of Ulises Morales & Abogados in Madrid, Spain.

Maria Cintia Benitez Nunez (Argentina) received her bachelor of laws from Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 2007 with orientation in Notarial Law and obtained a specialty degree in the Practice of Notarial Law from Colegio de Escribanos de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires in 2012. She worked for four years as notarial assistant in several lawyer-notary firms drafting contracts. She also worked as a technical notarial assistant at the Argentine Consulate in Los Angeles, California, during 2009–10. She also worked as head of clerk assistants for the lawyer-notary Diego B. Walsh for two years.

Artem Hrytsak (Ukraine) received his bachelor of laws with honors from National University Yaroslav the Wise Law Academy of Ukraine in 2013. He worked as a legal intern for Transparency International, the Anti-Monopoly Committee of Ukraine, and the Noerr International Law Firm. Hrytsak has published a variety of papers dealing with corporate law and anti-trust issues in Ukraine and has served as a representative of Ukraine at the World Forum for Democracy. He is the recipient of CILE scholarship and a Franklin West housing scholarship.

Anastasia Konina (Russia) graduated magna cum laude for both a bachelor of laws and master of laws from Moscow State Institute of International Relations. She published “Application of the EU Competition Legislation to the Mergers and Acquisitions of Companies” in the Moscow Journal of Legal Science. She has worked as a senior legal counsel and as head of the foreign subsidiaries division of Norilsk Nickel, a mining and metallurgical company. Konina is the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship.

Fjolla Krasniqi (Kosovo) received her bachelor of laws from the University of
Pristina Faculty of Law in 2013. She served as a legal assistant for the Kosovo Chamber of Commerce where she worked closely with the Permanent Tribunal of Arbitration. Krasniqi is the recipient of a fellowship from World Learning as a part of the Kosovo Transitional Leadership Program.

Volodymyr Rog (Ukraine) received his bachelor of laws from National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in 2010 and an LLM from Central European University in 2011. He was a participant in the Willem C. Vis Commercial Arbitration Moot Court in 2013 and 2014 and has worked as an associate at the law firm of Spenser & Kauffman. Rog is the recipient of a tuition scholarship from the University Center for International Studies (UCIS) and a Franklin West housing scholarship.

Dinda Nurash Saragih (Indonesia) received her bachelor of laws from the University of Indonesia Faculty of Law in 2010. She has served as a junior analyst and researcher for the Special Advisor to the Minister of State-Owned Enterprises for the Republic of Indonesia. Saragih is the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship.

Catherine Tonui (Kenya) received her bachelor of laws from Moi University in Eldoret, Kenya, in 2009, and received a postgraduate diploma in law in 2010 from Kenya Law School in Nairobi. From 2010 to 2014, she worked for Honda East Africa Ltd. in Nairobi. She is the recipient of a CILE scholarship.

Natalia Valencia Mejia (Colombia) received her bachelor of laws from Fundacion Universidad del Norte Law School in Baranquilla, Colombia, in 2008. She received a specialization in commercial law from the same institution in 2009. Valencia Mejia has served as an external legal advisor to a variety of public and private organizations. She is the recipient of a tuition scholarship from the University Center for International Studies (UCIS).

Dao Xiang (China) received his bachelor of laws with a minor in international politics from Renmin University of China in 2014. He has worked as a legal intern at Global Law Office, assisting on topics including investment disputes and real estate transactions.

SAVE THE DATE

Plan to join us in Pittsburgh on September 11, 2015 for a special celebration of the 20th anniversary of CILE

Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship Recipients 2014–15

Andrew Coyne (Class of 2015) – Hindi (summer FLAS) (Global Studies Center)
Casey Martinez (Class of 2015) – Portuguese (Center for Latin American Studies)

Nordenberg Summer Internship Fellowship Recipients

Ruth Guyasa (Class of 2016) – Demissie Management Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd., Ethiopia
Emily Kinkead (Class of 2016) – Legal Aid Centre of Eldoret (LACE), Kenya
Christopher Shook (Class of 2016) – USAID Kosovo Contract Law Enforcement Program, Kosovo
Nicholas Tomsho (Class of 2015) – Instituto Mexicano de Cinematografia (IMCINE), Mexico
Elina Aleynikova (JD ’14) studied abroad during the spring semester of 2014 at University of Cergy-Pontoise in Paris, France.

Khalil Alwazir (LLM ’14), Scott Fellmeth (Class of 2015), Matthew McCullough (Class of 2015), and Denise Attar (Class of 2015) participated in the 2014 Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C. Iva Grgic (LLM ’14) served as coach.

Kevin Betancourt (Class of 2015) received an Alcoa Fellowship to participate in the Duquesne University summer program in Cologne, Germany. While in Germany, Betancourt completed an internship with Openhoff & Partners in Cologne.

Morgan Bonekovic (Class of 2016) received an Alcoa Fellowship to study abroad at Pitt’s 2014 Summer Institute of International Commercial Law & Dispute Resolution in Zagreb and Zadar, Croatia.

Andrew Coyne (Class of 2015), Robert Gyenes (Class of 2015), Michael Micsky (Class of 2015), and Catie Shawley (Class of 2015) participated in the 2014 Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Competition in Vienna, Austria.

Danielle Evans (Class of 2016) received an Alcoa Fellowship to study abroad at Pitt’s 2014 Summer Institute of International Commercial Law & Dispute Resolution in Zagreb and Zadar, Croatia.
Ryan Ewing (Class of 2016) received an Alcoa Fellowship to study abroad at Pitt’s 2014 Summer Institute of International Commercial Law & Dispute Resolution in Zagreb and Zadar, Croatia.

Noret Flood (Class of 2016) received an Alcoa Fellowship to study abroad at the Pitt’s 2014 Summer Institute of International Commercial Law & Dispute Resolution in Zagreb and Zadar, Croatia.

Ruth Guyasa (Class of 2016) received a Nordenberg Fellowship to do a 2014 summer internship at Demissie Management Consultancy Services in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Robert Gyenes (Class of 2015) completed a 2014 summer internship at Wolf Theiss in Zagreb, Croatia.

Delaney James (Class of 2016) received an Alcoa Fellowship to study abroad at Pitt’s 2014 Summer Institute of International Commercial Law & Dispute Resolution in Zagreb and Zadar, Croatia.

Jacqueline Jones (Class of 2016) received an Alcoa Fellowship to study abroad at Pitt's 2014 Summer Institute of International Commercial Law & Dispute Resolution in Zagreb and Zadar, Croatia.

Emily Kinkead (Class of 2016) received a Nordenberg Fellowship to do a 2014 summer internship at the Legal Aid Centre of Eldoret in Eldoret, Kenya.

Casey Martinez (Class of 2015) received a 2014–15 Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship from the University of Pittsburgh Center for Latin American Studies to study Portuguese.

Drew Roberts (Class of 2015) studied abroad during the 2013–14 academic year at Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, Spain.

Michael Roberts (Class of 2016) received an Alcoa Fellowship to study abroad at Pitt’s 2014 Summer Institute of International Commercial Law & Dispute Resolution in Zagreb and Zadar, Croatia.

Alison Sacriponte (Class of 2015) studied abroad during the 2013–14 academic year at Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, Spain.

Jade Salyards (Class of 2016) received an Alcoa Fellowship to study abroad at Pitt’s 2014 Summer Institute of International Commercial Law & Dispute Resolution in Zagreb and Zadar, Croatia.

Lauren Sowko (Class of 2016) received an Alcoa Fellowship to study abroad at Pitt’s 2014 Summer Institute of International Commercial Law & Dispute Resolution in Zagreb and Zadar, Croatia.

Christopher Shook (Class of 2016) received a Nordenberg Fellowship to do a 2014 summer internship at the USAID Kosovo Contract Law Enforcement Program with Checchi and Company Consulting in Pristina, Kosovo.

Nicholas Tomsho (Class of 2015) received a Nordenberg Fellowship to do a 2014 summer internship at the Instituto Mexicano de Cinematografia in Mexico City, Mexico.

Kelsey Ward (Class of 2016) received an Alcoa Fellowship to study abroad at Pitt’s 2014 Summer Institute of International Commercial Law & Dispute Resolution in Zagreb and Zadar, Croatia.

Joshua Yawney (Class of 2015) studied abroad during the 2013–14 academic year at University of Edinburgh School of Law in Edinburgh, United Kingdom.

Renee Martin-Nagle (JD ’84) founded A Ripple Effect PLC in 2014, which won a competitive, FAA-funded contract to do a sustainability analysis of small U.S. airports. She is also serving as cochair of the International Environmental Law Committee of the ABA Section of International Law and is corporate secretary and a member of the executive committee for Omega Institute and the Chesapeake Legal Alliance. She will begin lecturing, advising students, and pursuing a PhD at University of Strathclyde in January 2015.

Anthony Dubois-Martin (LLM ’98) is currently working as a pharma market sales manager for Astra Zeller France in Lyon, France.

Nicole (Breland) Aandahl (JD ’01) is now at Hilton Worldwide (Hilton HQ) as the company’s assistant corporate secretary.

Daniil Fedorchuk (LLM ’01) joined the law firm of Gide Loyrette Nouel in Kyiv, Ukraine, on January 08, 2014.

Victor Mosoti (LLM ’01) is now at the World Bank in Washington, D.C.

Mariya Nizhnik (LLM ’03) has moved from the Kyiv, Ukraine, firm of Vasil Kisil & Partners with several colleagues to start a new law firm named Aequo.

Michelle Beckers (JD ’03) is working in-house for a tech company as managing counsel for all international-related matters.

Lauren Becker (JD ’08) began her new position as an attorney in the Office of General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C., in June 2014.

Lisl Brunner (JD ’08) has moved from her position at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to work for the Global Network Initiative as facilitator for the Telecommunications Industry Dialogue, a group of international telcos that addresses freedom of expression and privacy in the context of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. She also co-taught a year-long human rights fact-finding practicum course at Georgetown Law, which involved taking a group of students to the Dominican Republic to research and write a report on statelessness and the rights of children of Haitian descent. Brunner is now cochair
of the American Society of International Law’s New Professionals Group, and, most importantly, mother to her new second son, Eamon.

William Fisher (JD ’10) is working as in-house counsel for Abeinsa EPC, a U.S. subsidiary of a Spanish multinational renewable energy technology and construction company, Abengoa. His team currently has projects in the United States, Mexico, and Chile.


Marie Brown (JD ’12) moved to Houston, Texas, in September 2013, where she is working as an attorney advisor for the Department of Justice Executive Office for Immigration Review at the Houston Immigration Court.

Iryna Dasevich (LLM ’12) interned at an immigration law firm in Pittsburgh after graduation. She then accepted a position with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in Vermont in March 2013.

Abeer Hashayka (LLM ’12) began work at Save the Children International in 2014. She has been a judge at the Jessup National Rounds in Palestine for the past two years. She now has a fellowship with the UN at their headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

Megan Crouch (JD ’13) is continuing to work at the Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE).

Mahmoud Elsaman (LLM ’13) earned his second master’s degree in private law from Ain-Shams University in Cairo, Egypt. He then spent three months (February–May 2014) at the Federal Judicial Center in Washington, D.C., doing a fellowship supporting foreign judges.

Moien Odeh (LLM ’13) began volunteering with the Association for the Promotion of International Humanitarian Law in 2014.

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Faculty International and Comparative Law Publications

Books:
Ronald A. Brand, Series Editor: Michael Karayanni, Conflicts in a Conflict: A Conflict of Laws Case Study on Israel and the Palestinian Territories, 5 CILE Studies (Oxford University Press, 2014)
Haider Ala Hamoudi, Negotiating in Civil Conflict: Constitutional Construction and Imperfect Bargaining in Iraq (University of Chicago Press, 2013)

Articles and Chapters:
Elena A. Baylis, “Function and Dysfunction in Post-Conflict Justice Networks and Communities,” 47 Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law 625 (2014)

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Faculty International and Comparative Law Publications continued from page 23


Vivian Curran, “From Nuremberg to Freetown: Historical Antecedents of the Special Court for Sierra Leone,” in The Sierra Leone Special Court and Its Legacy: The Impact for Africa and International Criminal Law (Charles Chernor Jalloh, ed., Cambridge Univ. Press, 2013)


Haider Ala Hamoudi, “Decolonizing the Centralist Mind: Legal Pluralism and the Rule of Law,” The International Rule of Movement – A Crisis of Legitimacy and the Way Forward, Chapter 4 (David Marshall, ed. 2014)


FACULTY ACTIVITIES

Professor Kevin Ashley presented an invited paper titled “Applying Argument Extraction to Improve Legal Information Retrieval” at the weeklong conference on Frontiers and Connections between Argumentation Theory and Natural Language Processing, held in July 2014 in the Centro Residenziale Universitario di Bertinoro, Italy, a hilltop fortress dating back to more than 1,000 years. Also in July 2014, Ashley spoke on “Toward Integrating Computational Models and Legal Texts (or will IBM Debater beat us to it?)” at the Thirteenth International Conference on Substantive Technology in the Law School and Law Practice (Subtech 2014) at the University of Vienna Law School.

Professor Elena Baylis presented her paper, “What Internationals Know: Improving the Effectiveness of Post-Conflict Justice,” at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference in Chicago on April 3, 2014. She also served as a discussant for a panel about international courts.

Professor Ronald Brand spoke on “Making U.S. Law on Judgments Recognition: A Three-Dimensional Chess Game” at a symposium on transnational forum shopping at Pepperdine University School of Law in Malibu, California, on September 19, 2013. His presentation was part of a panel on “Responsible Enforcement of Foreign Judgments,” which also included John Bellinger, former legal advisor to the Secretary of State, and Professors Linda Silberman of New York University and Steve Burbank of the University of Pennsylvania.

Brand spoke on “Contract Drafting Lessons From Rules on Jurisdiction and Choice of Forum in Europe” at the 2013 International Law Weekend-Midwest, held at Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, Missouri, on September 20, 2013. Also on the panel was Pitt Law grad Charles T. Kotuby Jr., (JD ’01), who is now an partner at the Jones Day office in Washington, D.C.

On October 7–11, 2013, Brand traveled to Istanbul, Turkey, to train students from Al-Iraqia University School of Law, Baghdad, Iraq, in preparation for participation in the 2014 Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot competition. The training sessions were funded by the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the U.S. Department of Commerce and continued with distance support for the Iraqia University Vis Team provided by Pitt Law 3L students Janet Checkley and Krysta Smith. On October 25, 2013, Brand moderated a panel on “Private International Law: The Year in Review” at the International Law Weekend hosted by the American Branch of the International Law Association. The panelists included Professor Louise Ellen Teitz, first secretary of the Hague conference on Private International Law; John J. Kim, assistant legal adviser for Private International Law at the U.S. Department of State; Karen
Vandekerckhove, team leader for Civil and Commercial Matters in the Civil Justice Unit of the European Commission; and Charles T. Kotuby Jr., (JD ‘01), now a partner with Jones Day in Washington, D.C.

On November 16–23, 2013, Brand attended a Session of UNCITRAL Working Group III, in Vienna, Austria, where negotiations continued on the development of a legal framework for global online dispute resolution (ODR). CILE has been an invited expert observer for the ODR project in Working Group III since its inception in 2010.

Brand participated in the Hague Conference on Private International Law Working Group on Judgments at The Hague, Netherlands, on February 24–28, 2014. Brand was a member of the U.S. Delegation to the Working Group, along with John Kim, the assistant legal adviser for Private International Law at the Department of State, and Paul Herrup of the Office of Foreign Litigation of the Department of Justice. On March 2–6, 2014, Brand traveled to Doha, Qatar, where he provided three days of training in oral argument for Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot teams from Afghanistan, Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and Tunisia. Brand was assisted in the training program by Pitt Law 3L students Janet Checkley and Krysta Smith. The three days of training were followed by the Fourth Annual Middle East Vis Pre-Moot. The week of activities was co-sponsored by the U.S. Department of State Commercial Law Development Program, the Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution, Qatar University, and Pitt Law’s Center for International Legal Education.

On March 11, 2014, Brand lectured at the Institute for European Studies (IES) in Brussels, Belgium, on “The Recognition of Foreign Judgments in the U.S. and Europe and the Hague Conference Judgments Project.” The IES is located in the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Flemish Free University of Brussels) and is a leading think tank and institutional home for a number of programs.


On March 10–14, 2014, Brand taught an introduction to American law course to the students in the LLM program at the University of Ghent, Belgium. While in Belgium, Brand also presented the Foreign Chair Lecture at the University of Ghent Faculty of Law on “Protecting Consumers in Online Transactions: Why EU Consumer Protection Rules Should be Replaced with Rules from ‘the Titanic of Worst Decisions’ by the U.S. Supreme Court.” Brand spoke on “Kosovo Accession to International Organizations: Private International Law,” at the workshop Kosovo as a Member of the International Community – Accession to International Organizations, at the University of Graz, Austria, on March 21, 2014. The workshop was co-sponsored by the University of Graz and the University of Pristina Faculties of Law. Participants included the deputy prime minister, minister of justice, and president of the Constitutional Court of Kosovo.

On April 3–18, 2014, Brand and Professor Harry Fiechtner accompanied the Pitt Law Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot team to Vienna for the 2013 Vis Competition. The Pitt team consisted of Robert Gyenes, Michael Micsky, Andrew Coyne, and Mary Kate Shawley. The team participated in the University of Belgrade Pre-Moot and in practice arguments at the University of Zagreb. Prior to the Belgrade Pre-Moot, Pitt Law’s Center for International Legal Education co-sponsored the annual Belgrade Arbitration Conference.

On June 3–6, 2014, Brand lectured on “Contract Drafting Using Rules of Jurisdiction” in the International Commercial Contracts Summer School in Verona, Italy. The program was jointly sponsored by the University of Verona and CILE. On July 7–10, 2014, Brand taught the general international business transactions section of the Institute in International Commercial Law & Dispute Resolution in Zagreb, Croatia. The institute (co-sponsored by CILE, the University of Zagreb, and Touro Law Center) is a four-week course taught in Zagreb and Zadar, which culminates in skills training with students presenting written and oral submissions on behalf of hypothetical clients in an international commercial arbitration.


Professor Vivian Curran received the Chevalier Dans l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques (The Order of Academic Palms) from the Consul General of France, Oliver Serot Almeras. The Order des Palmes Académiques, originally instituted in 1808 by Napoleon Bonaparte, is one of the highest French government honors bestowed upon academics and cultural figures.

Stephanie Dangel, executive director of Pitt Law’s Innovation Practice Institute, spoke at the May 16, 2014 International Women in Film & Television Summit in Pittsburgh. The Summit brought together entertainment professionals from around the world, including Twilight Director Catherine Hardwick and CNN Anchor Martin Savidge. Dangel addressed the legal challenges confronting filmmakers.

Professor Harry Fiechtner spoke on “Recent Scholarship on the U.N. Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG)” as a panelist at the NYU School of Law on September 26, 2013. He joined panelists Professor Clay Gillette of NYU Law School, Professor Ulrich Magnus of the University of...
Hamburg Law Faculty and the Max Planck Institute, Professor Marco Torsello of the University of Verona, Professor Stefan Vogenauer of Oxford University, and Professor Stephen Walt of the University of Virginia in discussing the approaches and philosophy of their commentaries on the CISG. The program was moderated by Professor Franco Ferrari, founder and director of the NYU Center for Transnational Litigation, Arbitration and Commercial Law, which sponsored the event.

On April 8, 2014, Flechtner spoke to faculty and students at the University of Zagreb (Croatia) on “Observations on the Civil Law Mind (By Someone Who Doesn't Know What He’s Talking About).” The talk focused on what Flechtner identified as the “Civil Law Homeward Trend”—a tendency by civilian judges and commentators to project domestic civil-law doctrines into the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG).

On May 9–10, 2014, Flechtner spoke at a conference on “The CISG and Domestic Contract Law: Harmony, Cross-Inspiration or Discord,” held at the University of Copenhagen, sponsored by the Copenhagen Centre for Commercial Law. Flechtner moderated a session on “Buyer's Inspection: Domestic Impact in CISG Practice.” He presented the lead paper, titled “CISG Article 79: Getting Seafomed,” for the session on “Liability Exemptions and Hardship.” Participants in the conference included leading commercial law academics and practitioners from throughout Scandinavia, including former and a current justice(s) of the Swedish Supreme Court. Flechtner's paper will be published in a forthcoming book of the conference proceedings.

Professor David Garrow was featured in an hour-long Australian Broadcasting Company Radio National program, The Beloved Community: Martin Luther King and the March on Washington, which aired nationally in Australia on August 24, 2013, and again on August 28, 2013.

Professor Haider Ala Hamoudi was interviewed on the Craig Fahle Show on WDET in Detroit, Michigan, on September 4, 2013, regarding legal developments in the Arab world following the Arab Spring. On September 6, 2013, Hamoudi spoke on the legality in the constitution making efforts following the Arab Spring at a Wayne State Law School program on “The Future of Arab Reform Movements.” Also speaking at the event were Professor Tarek Masoud of the John F. Kennedy School of Government of Harvard University and Professor Mark Tessler of the University of Michigan. In September, Hamoudi presented a draft paper at an International Rule of Law workshop sponsored by the Human Rights Program of Harvard Law School. The paper was published in The International Rule of Movement – A Crisis of Legitimacy and the Way Forward, edited by David Marshall and published by Harvard University Press.

On January 23, 2014, Hamoudi spoke at Pitt Law about his book, Negotiating in Civil Conflict: Constitutional Construction and Imperfect Bargaining in Iraq, recently published with the University of Chicago Press. On March 5, 2014, Hamoudi spoke at the NYU School of Law on constitution making in Iraq, at a panel entitled “The Struggle for Iraq's Future.” Hamoudi was appointed the 2014 Kraemer Scholar in Residence of Islamic Studies at William and Mary School of Law for a period in mid-March 2014. He gave several public presentations on Islamic law in the greater Williamsburg community as well as at the law school.

Hamoudi was the keynote speaker at the annual banquet of the Council of American Islamic Relations, Pittsburgh chapter, on March 29, 2014. He discussed the challenges and opportunities facing Muslims in the United States in the post-9/11 era and the ways in which Muslim Americans can increase their visibility as a respected minority group. On April 4, Hamoudi presented a paper at a workshop at one of the largest Shi'a seminars in the Western world, the Al-Mahdi Institute, located in Birmingham, England. The workshop was about the nature of legal responsibility under Islamic law and state law. Hamoudi’s paper contrasted different conceptions of maturity with Islamic and state paradigms.

On June 2, 2014, Hamoudi spoke on a panel at Harvard Law School with Professors Robert Gleave (University of Exeter, UK) and Kecia Ali (Boston University) as part of the Harvard Institute of Global Law and Policy conference on Heterodox Approaches to Islamic Law and Policy. The conference brought together established and emerging scholars from the fields of law, history, political science, anthropology, economics, and other social sciences to share critical and comparative methodologies and approaches to Islamic law and jurisprudence.

Professor David Harris discussed the use of predictive policing in the United States with Deutsche Welle Germany's international broadcaster on October 2, 2013. Predictive policing aims to help police anticipate crimes by using data on crime patterns and using algorithms that turn the data into blueprints for deploying officers, patrols, and other assets. Harris said that without safeguards, predictive policing could lead to racial profiling. On October 28, Harris was interviewed by Germany's ARD Television on the use of video and body worn video cameras by police in the United States. A federal judge in New York has ordered the city's police department to conduct pilot studies of the use of body worn video cameras and Harris has written the only law review article on the use of these devices by police. His interview will become part of a documentary on American police and their use of technology.

On February 18, 2014, Harris participated in a virtual panel at the University of Pittsburgh's European Union Center of Excellence. The discussion, “Spy Games: Technology & Trust in
the Transatlantic Relationship,” was part of the Center’s Conversations on Europe series. Other panelists were Pia Bungarten, Friedrich Ebert Foundation Representative to the United States and Canada; Annegret Bendiek, German Institute for International and Security Affairs; Anthony Glees, professor of politics and director of the Centre for Security and Intelligence Studies, University of Buckingham; and Ami Pedahzur, professor of government at the University of Texas-Austin.

On March 13, 2014, Harris spoke at the Universite de Bourgogne's School of Law in Dijon, France, about his 2012 book, Failed Evidence: Why Law Enforcement Resists Science, to 75 fourth and fifth year students, in a special session hosted by the school.

Professor Tony Infanti presented his report (co-written with Bernard Moens of PwC) in March 2014 on qualification of taxable entities and treaty protection at the Joint Meeting of the U.S. and Canadian Branches of the International Fiscal Association in Toronto, Canada. On March 18, 2014, Infanti served as commenter for a presentation by Professor David Paternotte of the Free University of Brussels, titled “Same-Sex Marriage: From Europe to the Global Arena.” The presentation was sponsored by the Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Program, the European Union, and Pitt’s European Union Center of Excellence/European Studies Center. In May 2014, Infanti was co-U.S. national reporter for the International Fiscal Association’s 2014 Congress in Mumbai, India.

Professor Charles Jalloh was interviewed on the Africa 54 program hosted by Vincent Makori for Voice of America TV in Washington, D.C., on September 6, 2013. He discussed the implications of Kenya's parliamentary vote urging the government to withdraw from the treaty that established the International Criminal Court (ICC). He explained that, contrary to what Kenyan politicians have been leading their people to believe, withdrawal from the treaty that has so far been endorsed by 122 countries (including 34 African states) would not affect the ICC’s pending crimes against humanity prosecutions of President Uhuru Kenyatta and Vice President William Ruto. On September 26, 2013, Jalloh spoke on two separate panels on the relationship between the United Nations Security Council and the International Criminal Court and on the future of international criminal law in Africa at an interdisciplinary conference convened by the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

On November 21, 2014, Jalloh spoke on the first-ever interactive panel among the 122 member states of the International Criminal Court (ICC). The special segment was requested by the African Union and titled “Indictment of Sitting Heads of State and Government and its Consequences on Peace and Stability and Reconciliation.” Thirty-six countries participated. Other panelists were Ambassador Rolf Einar Fife (Norway); Djeneba Diarra, African Union Commission acting legal counsel; Honorable Gitu Muigai, attorney general of Kenya; and Professor Cherif Bassiouuni, chairman of the Drafting Committee of the 1998 diplomatic conference which established the ICC. The moderator was the first president of the assembly, H.R.H. Prince Zeid Ra’ad al Hussein (Jordan’s ambassador to the United Nations).

Professor Sheila I. Vélez Martínez was a guest columnist in Jamaica’s The Gleaner on August 13, 2013, commenting on the murder of a transsexual teen.

Professor Michael Madison presented a paper titled “Managing Commons” at the IP Governance by Private Collective Entities Conference at the Center for Innovation and Information Law at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, on March 6–7, 2014. From June 30 to July 10, 2014, Madison taught Philosophical Foundations of Intellectual Property at the George Washington University Summer Intellectual Property Program, located at the Munich Intellectual Property Law Center and the Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition in Munich, Germany.

Madison is a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee for the Second Thematic Conference on Knowledge Commons organized by the International Association for the Study of Commons. The committee’s work was completed during the spring of 2014, with a conference to take place at New York University in September 2014.

Professor Jasmine Gonzales Rose spoke at the International Women in Film & Television Summit that took place in Pittsburgh on May 16–18, 2014. The summit brought together entertainment professionals from around the world, including Twilight Director Catherine Hardwick and CNN Anchor Martin Savidge. Gonzales Rose participated in a panel following the screening of Gideon’s Army, an award-winning documentary about three courageous public defenders working to ensure justice in the South.

Professor Harry Flechtner lectures to faculty and students at the University of Zagreb (Croatia).
Introducing Pitt Law’s Online LLM Option

Pitt Law is currently accepting applications for the online, part-time LLM option, which begins in August 2015, in addition to its traditional residential LLM offerings.

Students in the online course option will take 8 classes over two academic years to complete an LLM with a focus on International Commercial Law. Courses will be taught by Pitt Law’s world-renowned faculty and will be delivered via an online learning platform. Students may add an optional two-week residential session in Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C.

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