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The Russell Long Chair and CCLS Newsletter

March 2010 - #14

Civil Law Workshop, Saúl Litvinoff Series

The Civil Law Workshop Series in honor of the late **Professor Saúl Litvinoff** held its two final sessions. This Series visited the relationship between the civil law and the common law. Papers will be published in Volume 3 of the *Journal of Civil Law Studies*, due in summer 2010.

- On January 13, 2010, **Professor Jörg Fedtke** (Tulane University Law School) presented *Time to Move On - Challenging a Tired Division - Common Law Methods in a Civil Law System*. [See the video of the presentation](#) (press CTRL when clicking on the link).
- On February 4, 2010, **Professor Santiago Legarre** (Visiting Professor LSU Law Center, Universidad Católica Argentina) presented *Common Law, Civil Law, and the Challenge from Federalism*, after giving a vibrant homage to the great Litvinoff, with much humor and charisma. [See the video presentation](#).

Both events were well attended by members of the LSU Law Center and other Louisiana institutions.

Journal of Civil Law Studies - Student Editors Volume 3

The JCLS welcomes its *Student Editors* for Volume 3, to be published in the summer 2010. Once contributions are peer-reviewed and accepted for publication, they are edited by our *Student Editors*, all of whom are J.D. and LL.M. candidates at the LSU Law Center.

Student Editors Volume 3 - 2010

- Lauren Anderson; Michelle Benard; Brittan Jackson Bush; Constance Comstock; Sarah Costello; James G. Dubuisson, IV; Irina V. Fox; Joshua Monroe; Claire A. Popovich; Pablo Reyes; Jessica Smith; Oleksiy Stolyarenko; Madhuri Votra.

For additional information visit www.law.lsu.edu/jcls or email jcls@law.lsu.edu

Honorary Doctorate

Earlier this year at the Paris Grand Amphitheater of the Sorbonne, **Professor Alain Levasseur** was made *Docteur Honoris Causa* of Université Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas. This is the highest honor a French University may grant and this one is conferred by one of the most prestigious in the nation. The nomination process is quite complex, requiring initiation by peers, full board approval, and a selection

decision by University President; the recommendation is then forwarded to the ministries of higher education and of foreign affairs, followed by publication of a governmental decree. This honorary doctorate recognizes among other things the unique contribution of our colleague in disseminating the knowledge of the American legal system to French speaking students and scholars and his successful efforts, as President of the Louisiana Chapter of the Association Henri Capitant, in strengthening the close links between the Louisiana and the French legal cultures.

Distinguished Global Visitors Program

Two distinguished professors are visiting the LSU Law Center during this spring semester:

- **Professor Santiago Legarre**, Universidad Católica Argentina (Argentina), February 1st – February 12th, taught *Comparative Constitutional Law*.
- **Professor Sheldon Leader**, University of Essex (United Kingdom), March 29th – April 14th, teaches *International Trade, Investment and Human Rights*.

Visiting Scholar

Dr. Asya Ostroukh, a Fulbright Scholar from Russia, is presently in residence at the LSU Law Center. Dr. Ostroukh's research project is *French Legal Tradition Influence on the Louisiana Legal System*. Dr. Ostroukh is an associate professor in the Department of Legal Theory and History at the Law School of Kuban State University in Krasnodar, Russia.

Introduction to French Law in French

Six second year and third year law students attended the new course *Introduction au droit français* taught in French by **Professor Olivier Moréteau** between January and March (12 hours, one credit). On February 22, **Mr. Olivier Brochenin**, Consul General of France, met with the students and agreed to be the “Parrain” of the first class, composed of Richard Bond, Bradley Bourgeois, Laura Graham, Hannon Laplace, Julie Olinde, and Pablo Reyes.

Conference Notes

- On February 15, 2010, **Professor Olivier Moréteau** was a guest speaker at the Faculty Colloquium at the University of Georgia Law School in Athens, Georgia. He talked about *The Future of Civil Codes in Europe*.
- On March 23, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., **Professor Olivier Moréteau** will present a lecture on *The Life and Work of François-Xavier Martin* on the occasion of the *Annual Meeting of the Supreme Court of Louisiana Historical Society* (Louisiana Supreme Court, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Court Room, 4th Floor).
- On April 15, 2010, at 11:30 am, **Mr. Agustín Parise** will present *Origins, Reception, and Dissemination of Legal Ideas - The Civil Law Codification Experience in Louisiana*. The presentation will take place at the Supreme Court building, and is organized by the Law Library of Louisiana and the Supreme Court of Louisiana Historical Society.

Juris Diversitas

Juris Diversitas was founded in 2007 as an international, interdisciplinary group for the study of legal and normative mixtures and movements. Most members are comparatists, hoping to open a conversation with anthropologists, geographers, historians, and sociologists, both within the law and

beyond. The first conference was organized in Lausanne with the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law (September 2009), featuring a paper presented by **Professor Alain Levasseur**. The Executive Committee is composed of **Dr. Séan Donlan** (JD LSU and PhD Trinity College Dublin, Lecturer at the University of Limerick), Chair, **Dr. Ignazio Castellucci** (Rome La Sapienza; PhD Trento, teaches at the Universities of Trento and Macau), and **Dr. Olivier Moréteau**, founding members of *Juris Diversitas*. For more information, visit the Group's Blog at <http://jurisdiversitas.blogspot.com/>.

Haiti Initiative

Immediately after the tragic earthquake that devastated Port-au-Prince on January 12, 2010, Chancellor Jack Weiss and Professor Olivier Moréteau agreed to invite two law students from the Law School in Port-au-Prince, to complete their legal studies at the LSU Law Center. Invitations have also been extended to two young faculty who, like the students, are fluent in English. All will be involved in projects geared towards the reconstruction of Haiti and the improvement of its legal system, to be coordinated by the Center of Civil Law Studies. The Public Interest Law Society (PILS), a student organization that actively engages law students in the community by planning pro bono and community service projects and events, is a full partner in this initiative. More information will be given in this Newsletter and anyone interested in this endeavor may contact Professor Moréteau at moreteau@lsu.edu.