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FORUM JURIDICUM

In the past, the Forum Juridicum feature of the Louisiana Law Review has been like many Civil Law institutions: beloved for its antiquity, for its versatility and for the sound of its name; yet frustrating in its insusceptibility of definition or limitation. We keep such institutions around because we love them, but often we really don't know what to do with them.

With this issue, the Editors are proud to announce that this old Law Review feature will serve a new and important purpose. A real problem in legal scholarship is the long gestation period for ideas: the time between the first treatment of an issue by the popular news media and its analysis in the law journals is measured in months or even years. What law review articles gain in wisdom and in comprehensiveness from the time-consuming process of research, writing and editing, they often lose in timeliness, and sometimes in liveliness.

We hope the new Forum Juridicum will be a part of the solution. We plan to feature short articles on topics of current or perennial interest in the law, briefer and not so thoroughly footnoted as other law review articles, yet longer and perhaps more thoughtful than Letters to the Editor in publications of general circulation.

As Forum Juridicum contributors in this issue, we are fortunate to have a nationally respected authority on constitutional law, and a distinguished member of the LSU Law School faculty.

