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School of Law
Dean Rusk Center - International, Comparative
and Graduate Legal Studies

Georgia Law's Global Internship Program (GIP) has had a very successful summer. Twenty-one students traveled to eleven countries in the 2007 summer, having the opportunity to intern in law firms, non-governmental organizations, corporations, and government agencies. In this final report, you will find the students' program reports that reflect their diverse experiences during their summer work abroad. The reports showcase the incredible variety and meaningful opportunities offered to the students by the host organizations. We also asked a limited number of host organizations to give us input on what it meant to host a University of Georgia law student as an intern during the summer. Among the highlights of the students' experiences abroad are:

- Patrick Arndt's work at the Enforcement and Legal Affairs Department of the Jordan Securities Commission, where he authored a comparative law paper on Insider Trading in the United States, European Union and Jordan;
- Muneer Awad's work at the South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre reporting on privacy rights at risk under India's proposed multi-purpose national identity card (MNIC) system;
- Terressa Davis' work in Papua New Guinea developing a legal and judicial database. Ms. Davis is returning to Papua New Guinea University in the summer of 2008 to launch the database and train lawyers and judges in its use;
- Rohan Kale's work in the International Legal Department of the Clorox Company in Argentina where he assisted with the company's international contracts and litigation; and
- Michael Petty's work at the International Lesbian and Gay Association where he was involved with activists around the world supporting the work of the organization.

Dean Rebecca H. White allocated, for the second year in a row, funding for students participating in the Global Internship Program. Through the Dean's office, students received law school support of up to \$1,500 on a cost-reimbursement basis. The law firm of Kilpatrick Stockton LLP also generously supported, as it has done for the last five years, three students interning in Guyana's Attorney General's Office with the amount of \$3,000 each. In addition, two of the summer participants received outside funding: 1) Michael Petty, who interned at the International Lesbian and Gay Association in Brussels, Belgium won the Ned Spurgeon Public Interest fellowship and 2) Muneer Awad, who interned at the South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre, New Delhi, India received the Equal Justice Foundation fellowship.

This year we have also made strides in structuring the program with a two-phased application process. Students who had a primary interest in working abroad participated in

an early application process held in January where they had a better chance of getting assigned to a venue of their first choice. The second phase was held in March when students applied for the venues left from phase one. In addition, we organized three informational sessions throughout the academic year, which were well attended by first and second-year students.

The GIP continues to address the issues that come with a growing program. We are trying to adjust and rectify any problems arising from the pairing of students with organizations abroad. The journal of a student who worked in China and had a less than desirable experience is included in this report. Not everyone's experience in the same location has been equally productive or enjoyable. Thus, we are advising prospective interns that their experience will differ from that of their fellow students, and if we see a negative trend in the relationship between interns and host organizations, we exclude the venue from the program the following year.

The GIP was created in 2001, offering students the opportunity to work in one country and one venue. Since then, the program has evolved to what it is now: the largest UGA program in geographical terms and one of the top law programs of its kind in the U.S., with 45 available placements in 25 countries. You will find in this report the list of offerings for the 2007 and 2008 summers and will be able to appreciate the efforts made to continue adding venues around the world. We hope to continue expanding the program, allowing the University of Georgia School of Law students to have the unique opportunity to work and live in the most exciting places in the world.

Sincerely yours,

Marie Dunieus

María Eugenia Giménez

## **SUMMER 2007 AVAILABLE PLACEMENTS**

### **AFRICA**

**Ghana:** Judiciary of Ghana, Accra

## **ASIA**

China: King and Wood, Beijing

King and Wood, Shanghai Fangda Partners, Shanghai Herbert Smith, LLP, Shanghai Zhong Xin law firm, Shanghai

India: South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre, New Delhi

Priti Suri & Associates law firm, New Delhi

**Jordan:** Jordan Securities Commission, Amman

**Thailand:** South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre, Bangkok

## **EUROPE**

**Belgium:** Centre for Economic Law, Vrije Universiteit, Brussels

International Law Association, Belgian Branch, Brussels

International Lesbian and Gay Association

**Bulgaria:** The Legislative Drafting Institute, Sofia

**Germany:** Haniel Corporation, Essen

Gorg Law Firm, Cologne

Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw Gaedertz, Frankfurt

**Hungary:** European Center of Not-for-Profit-Law, Budapest

Hungarian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, Budapest Public Interest Law Initiative (Columbia University), Budapest

Italy: Centre for Comparative and Foreign Law Studies, Rome

## SUMMER 2007 AVAILABLE PLACEMENTS, CONTINUED

Romania: Cabinet de Avocat Florin Popovici, attorneys at Law, Sibiu

Slovakia: Human Rights League, Bratislava

**Spain:** Fernando Scornik Gerstein law firm, Madrid

## **OCEANIA**

Papua

New Guinea: University of Papua New Guinea, Port Moresby

## **SOUTH AMERICA**

Argentina: Clorox Company, International Legal Department, Buenos Aires

Fundacion Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Buenos Aires

Universidad del Salvador, Buenos Aires

**Chile:** Ministry of Finance, Santiago

**Bolivia:** Foundation Work Enterprise, Santa Cruz

**Brazil:** Pires & Pires law firm, Recife

Alburquerque-Pinto law firm, Recife

Emmanuel Placido Advogados Associados law firm, Recife

Superior Magistrate School of Pernambuco, Recife

Guyana: Attorney General's Office, Georgetown

Public Prosecutor's Chambers, Georgetown

## **AFRICA**

## ACCRA, GHANA JUDICIARY OF GHANA

#### Nandi Campbell



**Ghana:** The first thing that must be said about Ghana is that they lack a sense of organization that I have grown to love and appreciate in America. However, the system of "it happens when it happens" seems to work for the Ghanaians. I instantly learned that when in Ghana do as the Ghanaians do and do not complain about how it can be done better. From what I can see they will learn the easier method in their own time.

Our boss/host for the externship was Ms. Mercy Ohene, originally from Ghana, went to law school in the UK and returned to Ghana to head up their Judiciary training institute. The institute is responsible for training judges and providing training for changes that will affect how the judiciary operates. Later in the summer, I had the opportunity to observe the work that goes into training all of the employees of a judiciary on an impending change. Ms. Ohene stressed the importance of understanding the Ghanaian people so that we understood why the judiciary is run the way it is. In doing so she scheduled Fridays off so that we would have long weekends to travel to various parts of Ghana and get to know the natives in their environment. I truly appreciated this because we were living in Ghana's capital city of Accra and it did not provide a great picture of the natives. Accra is the hub of the country and is the place that most Ghanaians move to in order to find big money.

In Accra, cars rule and pedestrians should make sure that they are not hit. Accra houses any foreign business that is willing to take a gamble in Ghana (which happens to be a lot these days), the best hotels in Ghana, the Ghanaian Supreme Court (and all major courts), and is the hub of anything relating to Ghana Politics. Accra is located on the coast, so there is a great breeze even though the rainy season tends to be hot. I was excited and ready to start my externship (A legal and spiritual journey), feeling a sense of being at home in Africa. I hope to talk with students throughout the year about how rewarding doing an international externship can be.

Commercial Court: In order to get a feel of the system, we were directed to spend some time in the commercial court. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court created the commercial court two years ago. The purpose of creating the court was to streamline civil cases involving businesses. The court and its judges attempted to fast track these cases, so that the court is not bogged down in trial delays. There are no juries in these cases, but judges can ask two other judges to sit in on cases that involve large sums of money or are of a complicated matter.

The first day of commercial court we were assigned to a judge named Ms. Hall. The case in her court involved a businessman who contracted with another businessman to rent

out space in his commercial area. A point of dispute in this case was which space was to be rented by the plaintiff. The plaintiff claimed the defendant promised to rent a space on the ground floor. However, the defendant claimed that the space rented by the plaintiff was on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. By the time they got to court, the plaintiff had paid some money to the defendant and was seeking to have the funds returned and attorney fees.

The first thing that I noticed was that Ghana's system is not as adversarial as our system. As I walked in the courtroom, the first thing that I noticed was that the Judge and all the attorneys were wearing robes and Wigs. I know this practice is historically British and since the British colonized Ghana, it seems obvious why it was practiced in Ghana. I was surprised, however, that the tradition is still practiced. The second thing I noticed was that there were two desks in the court (I assumed one for the plaintiff and one for the defendant), but everyone was sitting at one table talking like old pals. When the trial started I realized the attorneys were sitting at the same table and it was not seen as odd to anyone in the courtroom but me. The rules of examination and cross-examination are significantly different from the US. They are not as strict as we are about how they ask questions (leading questions are allowed on direct) and the answers that are given are directed to the judge and not to the attorney who asked the question. The judges are called "My Lord" and it is appropriate for attorneys to bow before them when they enter the courtroom.

We were assigned to the courtroom of Henry Kwodfie for our stay in commercial court. Judge Kwodfie's courtroom was the fast track courtroom, which meant the parties involved understood that the case is resolved as fast as possible. Judge Kwodfie is known for being strict with lawyers requesting extensions, continuances, and anything that will delay the trial. After observing some routine cases, mostly dealing with two business owners in a disagreement, a hearing was held in a case they demonstrated how an effective judge could influence how lawyers behave in the courtroom.

The Court manager (The court manager is equivalent to a legal clerk, but please do not call them clerks!) briefed us on the case as soon as we arrived. She told us that a bank was suing one if their customers because the customer owed money on a loan and for utilizing his overdraft without refreshing the account. What made this case unusual is that it had been in the court for over a year. The manager informed us that the judge was not happy about this case, but before she could fill us in on why the case has been in the court for a year the judge walked in the court and the hearing started. Prior to the judge walking in to the court, the lawyers from both sides chitchatted and laughed like old friends (they were seated at separate tables). The case resumed with the defendant's lawyer questioning the bank's president.

The lawyer began asking questions that seemed simplistic and I immediately wondered why he was being allowed to ask these questions. The judge cut him short (without an objection from the plaintiff's attorney) and specifically asked him how the questions he was asking were related to the case. The lawyer continued to ask irrelevant questions and eventually the judge became outraged and called him out. I enjoyed watching this exchange, because it demonstrated how judges could reduce delays in cases by requiring attorneys to focus on the issues of the case. I can understand why Judge Kwodfie is known as a judge who gets cases heard very quickly.

JTI, Supreme Court Chief Justice and Currency Conversion Training: Ghana converted their currency on July 1<sup>st</sup>. JTI was responsible for training all judicial workers on how the conversion would affect their jobs. We distributed conversion charts to the various courts and workers and held two-day training sessions for all judicial workers who work with cash. This consisted mostly of court registrars who collect money from parties filing suits. Ghanaians were skeptical of the conversion, but once they realized that the date was growing near and the government was not going to stop the conversion they began to come around. At beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court came to address the workers. Georgina Woods is Ghana's first female chief justice. I was excited about hearing her talk and meeting her. She requested that workers help people who do not understand the conversion and to not take advantage of their ignorance and take their money. Although I found it interesting that she focused on the possibility of workers taking advantage of the illiterate, I knew that corruption was everywhere in Ghana. I was not inspired or moved by her speech, but thrilled that Ghana had appointed a woman CJ.

While in Ghana, I investigated how I could practice in Ghana after I finish school in the US. I would like to explore the possibility of returning and practicing in Ghana because access to the court is not easy there. Poverty is a major issue and without a countrywide system that provides indigent defendants legal help; the poor go unrepresented. Criminal defendants in Ghana do not have a constitutional right to an attorney. A defendant can languish in jail for years without a trial because they are unable to afford an attorney.

## Accra, Ghana Judiciary of Ghana

#### **Bryan Thompson**



100,000 Cedis.

I arrived in Ghana on Monday, May 28th or 29th. Immediately when I got to the airport, the Ghanians who worked in the airports greeted me warmly. What I thought was them showing love, was actually them trying to take advantage of my ignorance of the culture. They carried my things to the car (of course their idea because I was perfectly fine, but they insisted) and then immediately asked for money. I had not yet converted my money over to Cedis, which is the currency they use, so I just paid them in dollar bills. They were very pleased to be paid in dollars. I had given them ten dollars, which to them is approximately

In Ghana, there are people on the streets walking up and down in the middle of traffic, not on the sidewalk, trying to sell anything to anybody. I vividly remember one guy selling flip-flops that did not match in terms of design, tic-tacs, and Kleenex. I could only wonder how one gets such a random inventory. In Ghana, the native language is Twi so it was hard to communicate at times with the people, but as the days went on, I found more

Ghanaians that were comfortable with English and just as curious about American culture as I was about Ghanaian culture, so we began to swap stories and insights. I learned that in Ghana there is no traditional social security, working for a company, paying taxes to the government and state, or getting a weekly/bi-weekly paycheck. Very few, often only the educated, get jobs where they work for a company and have set hours and get a paycheck. Otherwise, you are on the street selling whatever you can get your hands on in the true sense of a sink or swim environment. On one hand, I feel sorry for the Ghanaians that things are like this, but on the other hand, I truly admire their resilience because it is so remarkable. They rely solely on water to get them electricity. I am not really a big science guy so I don't quite understand the process, but this is what I was told: During the month of May is their rainy season where it continuously rains which then fills dams where they derive the water they need to power the city.

That past two years, however, it has not rained nearly enough which causes roling blackouts. The city has managed to get certain areas on a schedule so everyday you know what hour window you will be without power and plan for it that way. Sometimes, it is not planned and the whole city inside and outside of Accra (Ghana's capital) is without power. But that does not stop people from doing the business they must do. They still go to work and work in the dark or with whatever light they can get from flashlights or the sun. This is hard because there is so much I want to say and no particular way to say it in. I just type freely and hopefully this makes some sense to whomever reads it. So I will tell you about my work experience.

We (Nandi and I) worked with the judiciary of Accra. Their legal system is modeled after the British because that is whom they acquired their independence from. The lawyers and judges wear these wigs that resemble old British lawyers and they wear these gowns over their clothes. When we first saw them put on these wigs we thought it was a joke. But other that that, the trials we saw in commercial court were not too different than what you would see in the states.

In fact, one of the cases reminded of something you might see on Judge Mathis. On Thursday, it must have been 35 Celsius. Oh yeah, they don't do temperature in Fahrenheit like we do, but that would be about 106 degrees. Now this is the day that the power went out. It was the hottest day in Ghana that we experienced up to that point, but the lawyers were still there with their clients and judges still presiding over cases with those hot wigs and robes over their suits. Like I said above...absolutely resilient! The street merchants were still outside sweating like pigs, but they don't take days off. Rain, sleet, hail, or snow they are out there making a living. It makes me relate their experience to the States and I think everything would shut down if similar conditions met America.

Okay, so in Ghana there is no such thing as a public education system. All the kids that attend school past the age of about 14 are attending because their parents are paying for it. Once they get beyond the point of going to school for free, even a nominal fee education becomes prohibitively expensive. Thus, many students are forced to stop schooling after they complete the equivalent of an elementary education. They know how to read, count, and do basic things and that is enough before they get out onto the streets and start trying to contribute to their households. It makes me think about America and the question I ponder is: How many of us would be educated even up to a high school level if there was no public

school system and our parents had to pay for our schooling? Just as here, the idea of the rich getting richer permeates as the more money you have, the more education your children can acquire because you have the means to pay. It's that simple. It then becomes a never-ending cycle and the gap between the poor and the rich continues to widen.

I met a family consisting of a husband, wife and four children ages 9, twin boys that are 6, and a 4 year old. They were very nice. The parents owned a small market near the hotel Nandi and I were staying at. I met the children one evening when I was going to buy some Areebas for my phone.

I saw the kids sitting at a table doing their homework and playing some type of arithmetic game. The 9 year old girl spoke better English than her parents who were trying desperately to accommodate me because again the presumption is Americans have a lot of money and they wanted to make sure I spent it with them. The daughter was so helpful and articulate that I felt compelled to talk to her and her siblings. I was impressed, but at the same time, troubled by their circumstances. Their parents wanted to send the kids to a private school so they could get a good education, but did not have quite enough money to do it. I saw potential in all 4 of the children and believed that they could do great things if armored with a strong educational foundation. I wanted to finance their education so that their parents could do something else with the money-- maybe for their store or their home or other necessities they may lack-- but at the moment I do not have the money to make such an investment. That is just one instance in which I observed others desperately needing the resources we take for granted as Americans. The trip made me realize how fortunate we all are to have an abundance of what we call necessities, but what others call wants. Seeing Ghanaians do so much with so little is amazing. My new outlook on life is to never complain about my situation because it could be worse. I am thankful and grateful to the most high for blessing me with a tremendous opportunity to study law with some of the brightest upand-coming legal minds in the country. Also, I have learned to take advantage of every opportunity and to NEVER complain about working long hours in the classroom or at a job. I could be in Ghana waking up before sunrise to go out onto the streets and sell pure water.

## **ASIA**

### SHANGHAI, CHINA ZHONGXIN LAW FIRM

#### **Sunny Chung**

Aside from cultural incompatibility with the Chinese, my trip to Shanghai turned out to be less than fruitful. First of all, Yuan Wang, the externship sponsor at the law firm for the University of Georgia, School of Law decided to quit her job at Zhongxin and work somewhere else. This fact was not revealed to me until a week before my departure – far too late for me to cancel my flight and be fully refunded. When she let me know, she assured me that there was not going to be any problem and that I was still welcome at the law firm to work.

Upon arrival, Yuan told me that it was up to me to decide whether I wanted to work starting Tuesday or Wednesday or any other day of the week. She had suggested at this point that my husband (who accompanied me for part of the trip) and I take a side trip to other parts of China. I informed her that I had come to work, not vacation, so I was more interested in when I could start. She arranged for my supervisor to be James Wang, a newly added attorney to the law firm as of May. Yuan assured me that he was educated in the US and dealt with English legal work, so that he could give me something to do. She also arranged for me to arrive at the law firm on Wednesday to meet with James and to discuss the kind of work I would be doing there.

On Wednesday I arrived at the arranged time only to find that James was not there. None of the other employees at the law firm could tell me where he was and why he was not present. I called him on his cell phone. He did not know who I was and what meeting we had. He told me that he was too busy and that he was not going to be coming in that day. He did say that he would be coming in on Thursday so we could meet then.

On Thursday, I arrived at the law firm at the appointed time. James was one hour and thirty minutes late in arriving. Upon arrival we talked a little bit about my education background and his background. When he learned that I was not Chinese, he couldn't understand why I had come to China or to work at the firm. He told me that there was not much work to do for me, and that my husband and I should take a vacation while I was in China. I assured him that I had intended on getting some work experience so I would be grateful for anything in English that I could do for him. I also wanted to learn from him. He informed me that because of his arrangement with the law firm, he does not come in regularly and that he would not be seeing me very much. At the end of this conversation he gave me a franchising contract and asked me to read it. He said we would discuss it together afterwards.

I spent the rest of Thursday and Friday reading the contracts. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday James did not come into the office and I had nothing to do. On Thursday he arrived. When I asked him about discussing the franchising contract together, he told me that he was very busy and that we would talk about it later. The next day he gave me the

same excuse and I had nothing to do. I approached another English speaking paralegal and attorney at the office to see if there was anything that I could do. I was repeatedly told that Zhongxin was a small, local Chinese firm that did not deal much at all in English. They didn't know why I had come.

On the third week, James came in on Tuesday and Wednesday. He gave me a due diligence report he had to fill out for one of his clients and asked me to read it. He promised me that we'd discuss it later on. By this time, I was frustrated with the situation where I was given material, asked to "read it" and no follow up meetings to discuss anything.

On Monday of my fourth week Yuan called me to ask how things were going. I informed her of my problems. I also confronted her about the fact that by end of May she had stopped coming to Zhongxin and yet failed to inform me of this. Had she done so, I would not have purchased my plane tickets or wasted more money and time coming to Shanghai for an experience that was neither worth the money nor the effort. Yuan responded that she had never promised me any experience, and that since she was no longer employed at Zhongxin, there was nothing that she could do.

James had called on Monday of the fourth week to say that he wouldn't be coming in that week. I had total of four or five days of actually seeing James at the office and maybe one or two days of actual interaction, none of which amounted to any sort of mentoring. I complained to the other interns about the situation. One of the interns contacted one of the lawyers (who does not speak English) and through the intern I was told that he was very sorry that my experience was less than ideal. He arranged for me to meet with a lawyer friend of his who worked at an international firm – comprised of both Chinese and American lawyers, this firm specialized in foreign direct investments. He came over and we spoke for about 45 minutes where I asked him some questions about the kind of work that he does and he walked through what a typical transaction entailed.

James returned on Thursday to take me out to lunch and told me that he was sorry that he couldn't be more available or give me any substantive work. He promised me that he would email me the finalized franchising contract when completed. We never did take any time to discuss any of the material he gave me.

Overall, the experience left a bad taste in my mouth about China, about Chinese lawyers, and about the International Program office at UGA School of Law. I knew that I was not guaranteed extensive work at Zhongxin. However, no one in her right mind would assume that her sponsor would invite her and then quit her job only to inform her a week before arrival. Such behavior is not only negligent, but also rude and inconsiderate of other people's situations. With the knowledge that I would be spending a large sum of money to come to China for some kind of experience, Yuan Wang behaved in an unconscionable way – deserting me and taking no responsibility for my externship, failing to inform me of the change in her status at Zhongxin (perhaps for the reason that I arranged to rent out her father's apartment and she didn't want to lose out on that opportunity?), and refusing to be held accountable for the result of her misconduct, absolving herself from any liability by saying that she did not guarantee me anything.

Zhongxin was explained to me by the lawyers there to be a local Chinese firm, which does not do much work in English. The Zhongxin attorneys advised me that next time I should look for a law firm that did more work in English. This leads me to wonder why the International Programs office listed this firm in the first place. Perhaps the connection was with Yuan Wang, given that she completed her LLM at Georgia. I don't know. There was a lot lost in translation, and had I known the full truth, I would not have chosen to go to China. Any experience I gained in Shanghai was not through the externship program.

I noticed that this law firm was once again listed on the flyer that went out to all law students at the beginning of this semester. I hope that this was an over-sight on the part of the administration, as I clearly indicated that the law firm should be stricken from the list. Misleading students does not engender confidence in any of the programs or the competency of the department. I hope this over-sight is cleared up soon. The law school teaches us to be forthright and open in our future profession. I expect the International Program department to lead by example.

### SHANGHAI, CHINA KING & WOOD

#### Sarah Moore

This summer, I participated in an externship program in Shanghai, China. I worked at King & Wood, which is the largest law firm in the PRC; the firm has additional offices in Beijing and Palo Alto. In the Shanghai division, I was specifically assigned to the corporate finance group, although I briefly helped the venture capital and commercial arbitration groups. Shanghai is an excellent city for commercial law because it is the business center of all of China, so the experience of working at this law firm was interesting, and I was able to deal with many business contracts with foreign companies.

Part of my responsibilities included drafting, viewing, and editing contracts for mergers between foreign owned investors and PRC financial institutions. I also participated in the contract negotiations. Other responsibilities included researching PRC labor laws for expanding international companies and working with venture capital contracts for a venture-stage company.

Overall, my working environment was very nice. The office is in a very upward-mobile part of the city, on Huai Hai Road, which is known for being the Rodeo Drive of Shanghai. There were many restaurants nearby, however the law firm actually provided free lunch (which was good). I shared an office with an associate in my group, and I was able to speak to them on a regular basis. Most people in the law firm speak English, and there are many foreign clients. Many documents are in Mandarin, however (as well as your computer desktop), and this was the only obstacle that I faced. I had arranged with the head of Human Resources for the firm to reimburse me on my housing payment. They were able to

on a day-to-day basis. My supervisor was very busy, so mostly I looked for work elsewhere, however I did sit in on his contract negotiations with the Bank of Nova Scotia merger. Many of the associates approached me to help them with various documents. My knowledge of contract law was helpful, but additionally I received a lot of questions about US Labor law and the WTO.

I would recommend that when traveling to China, students should get a 60-day tourist visa from the visa agency. The Chinese government is very strict about visa entry, and if one has an expired visa, he will have to pay a "tax" at the airport of up to \$1000 to leave China and reenter the United States. China is a cash-based country. Many places now take credit cards, but on the whole, businesses operate in cash. I would recommend that you not get foreign currency (Yuan) before you go to China and wait until you are in the country to exchange Dollars to Yuan. You can go to the Bank of China or exchange at the airport.

Housing is very expensive in Shanghai. Originally, the law firm arranged for me to stay at a furnished apartment near their building. However, I had to provide things like sheets, and it did not come with Internet access or a telephone. It also required that I pay in cash upfront without a housing contract. I decided not to use that accommodation, and instead they arranged a hotel for me at a discounted rate per day. I would recommend that your accommodations take credit card because if there is something wrong with the housing, you have the option of calling the credit card company and getting your money back.

I used the subway to go to work every morning. It is very cheap, and I would recommend getting a rail card because it gives you a discount. You can also pay taxis with your pre-paid rail card. The subway system of Shanghai is well organized. I was able to navigate around easily. The railway has a station directly to the Maglev train when going to the Pudong Airport. I also recommend getting a pre-paid SIM card for your phone. Most tri-band phones will work in China. I called my cell phone company and asked them to "unlock" my phone for me so that I could use a different SIM card. When I was in China, I bought a China Mobile Sim card at a kiosk (making sure I did it in Shanghai so that I would receive a Shanghai local phone number). Some phone numbers that you buy are actually more expensive than others because of lucky numbers. 8's are lucky, and 4's are unlucky, so any number with 4's will be cheaper.

Regarding the environment, the thing that I would recommend future externship participants to do is be aware of their surroundings. Shanghai is a modern city with malls and nice parks, but there is also an economic division. Many businesses will not be monitored for consumer fraud. Every time you buy something, check the change that they give you back and ask for a receipt. Make sure that the taxi drivers are reputable (have their id and a customer service number) and they do not take the scenic route to drive up the fare. Many vendors approach Westerners to buy goods (especially on Nanjing Road). Avoid vendors on the street who offer to sell you purses or bags because they will most likely rip you off. Usual counterfeit sellers are in bazaar like centers with their own shops. If they are on the street, this usually isn't good. Also, specifically avoid people who want to sell you art, and avoid people who want to take you to a teahouse because this is a scam. If you purchase anything not in a mall or a restaurant, the price can always be bargained down. I recommend starting at 5% the price that they offer initially. Usually service people do not

speak English, so I would suggest getting a Chinese phrase book with the characters in it (because many cannot even read pinyin).

## SHANGHAI, CHINA HERBERT SMITH, LLP

#### Paul Rothstein

In the summer of 2007, I interned at Herbert Smith, LLP, a British law firm in Shanghai, China. While at Herbert Smith, I had the opportunity to enhance my legal skills and knowledge while experiencing a large law firm environment operating amid Chinese culture.

When I first arrived, both my supervisor and the person overseeing English translation were out of town, and I was asked to edit several large documents. My job was to clean up the English of the Chinese associates who were charged with translating the Chinese versions into English. I first read through an IPO prospectus looking for grammar mistakes and also overall coherency, and I reviewed the document with the people who had written it. In this otherwise mundane task of editing English, I gained insight into the lengthy process of taking a company public on the Hong Kong stock exchange and the contents included in the prospectus. Though this would not be the last editing I would do, the remaining documents were usually short letters and much less time consuming than a prospectus.

Shortly after finishing the first editing project I was asked to update a memo describing the current state of Merger and Acquisition law in China. This was a very good assignment to start my internship with because I would see many of these laws later on when I would help the firm advise its clients on potential acquisitions in China. I went through the various rules governing onshore vs. offshore acquisitions, equity and asset purchases, and other types of direct investment and joint ventures. Writing this memo introduced me to the type of work I would be doing and the terminology and concepts that I was starting to hear about.

My supervisor was the one who made my internship what it was. He is a former teacher, and he took the extra time to explain very carefully everything that he was doing, and everything that I should be doing. He encouraged me to ask questions about any topic, even if unrelated to our project at hand. Before each assignment, he would bring me to the conference room and give me a very detailed explanation of the history of the transaction, up to that point, and what the client wanted us to do. He enhanced my learning experience much more than the average lawyer would for his summer associate. He also encouraged me to make the most out of living in Shanghai by sending me home early or giving me the occasional day off.

During my internship, there were 2 substantial projects I worked on when my supervisor returned to the office. The first was drafting a joint venture agreement between a Chinese land developer and a European investor. This project was particularly interesting because of the structure of the proposed partnership, which neither of the lawyers in our office had ever seen before. We spent a few days exchanging emails with the client to clarify what exactly they wanted, and we were finally able to combine several forms to produce an agreement that could be used. After completing the first draft, the client came back with several requests for modifications or additions. While the lawyers felt that these were unnecessary and perhaps even unwise, the client insisted on including them. Observing the interactions, disagreements, and solutions, I was able to see beyond the legal concepts and theories emphasized in law school and simply see how to be a legal advisor to a client. With respect to my development as a lawyer, this intangible was probably the most valuable thing I learned at Herbert Smith because it could not have been learned in school.

The second was a due diligence project for an onshore asset acquisition by an American company. This involved reviewing hundreds of documents and several conference calls with lawyers from the U.S. and Hong Kong. Because the associate who had been overseeing this project left during my second week, I was handed the task of reviewing and organizing her work for my supervisor. This was challenging with respect to the subject matter of the documents as well as the organization of the project. I sorted through hundreds of pages of documents, both in English and Chinese, to figure out what was there and what more was needed from the other party. This work enabled us to move forward with the diligence and expedite the closing of the deal. It was during this project that I was able to work closely with the Chinese lawyers, which also enabled me to get to know them on a more personal level. Through hours of reviewing both English and Chinese documents from an online data room, we spent additional hours eating lunch and talking around the office, and these encounters proved to be among the best windows into life in China that I would experience. While the actual work on this project wasn't particularly enthralling, the countless perspectives shared with me about Chinese culture, politics, sports, and daily life, for which I exchanged my own perspective as an American student living in China, were always interesting and were truly the most memorable times in China.

My internship would not have been worthwhile without also experiencing all that the city of Shanghai has to offer. I spent nights and weekends wandering through the streets, admiring the unbelievable modern architecture that characterizes almost every office building. Weekend days would be spent visiting museums, shopping districts, and other tourist spots. I enjoyed a variety of Chinese foods, ranging from fancy touristy spots to the carted vendors selling noodles or dumplings outside of their one-room houses. I developed an interest in Chinese history, and spent many hours visiting historical sites in both Shanghai and Beijing. I was also able to briefly travel outside of the big cities, visiting Hangzou, sitting beside the beautiful West Lake, and Suzhou.

My experience in China was extremely valuable, mostly because of the internship. My boss taught me so much more than a law school class could, and I could never have gained such an experience anywhere else. I went to China to learn something about the Chinese business and legal environments, and I accomplished that goal and more. In addition to learning about the substantive laws and business practices, I had the opportunity

to observe an experienced lawyer practicing M&A law in Shanghai, and I was able to enjoy all the other advantages that that amazing city has to offer.

### SHANGHAI, CHINA HERBERT SMITH, LLP

#### Jeremy Stallman

I've traveled a fair amount in my modest number of years on Earth, and China currently holds the record in my book of having a culture most difficult to understand for a Westerner such as myself. The language barrier is an obvious challenge for which I have encountered before; however, I underestimated the extent to which the cultural barrier would effect simple communication. An example is in counting to ten on the fingers, a simple mode of communication necessary for most basic transactions. At home, we count to ten using all of our fingers on each hand; while in China, there are symbols for numbers six through ten which makes it possible to count to ten using only one hand. Until I learned the system, this had a profound effect on the most basic attempts to communicate. It was cultural differences such as these that I found most interesting, and occasionally frustrating.

My trip in China began on a study abroad program through the UGA's Dean Rusk Center. In Beijing we spent two weeks at Tsinghua University. In Beijing we were able to meet with the US trade representatives and MOFCOM (the Chinese Ministry of Commerce) to discuss issues involving WTO obligations and China's attempts towards compliance. There were also cultural excursions to the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven, and the infamous Silk Market. The Silk Market, as the ultimate knock-off shopping mall, exemplifies the debate with China over its failure to implement WTO obligations with respect to intellectual property.

The study abroad concluded with one week in Shanghai at Fudan University. Shanghai is a never-ending sea of skyscrapers and elevated roads; ultra-modern architecture blended with old colonial style manors, and then blended again with eastern culture, resulting in a multilayered product. Full of expatriates due to the international business conducted there, Shanghai was a bit more westernized than Beijing. We traveled to the stock exchange and took in a few Buddhist temples. With the study abroad complete, I remained in Shanghai for my externship.

My externship was with Herbert Smith, LLP, located in Shanghai, a bustling international city of 20 million and Mainland China's economic center. Herbert Smith is a British law firm centered in London. Due to laws under the People's Republic of China (PRC), Herbert Smith, as a foreign law firm, is limited in the type of activities in which it can participate. Foreign law firms are prohibited from giving official legal advice to clients and are restricted to act only as consultants. Thus, Herbert Smith deals with corporate law, mostly dealing with multinational corporations involved in China in one way or another.

My "mentor" at the firm was Steven Fieldman, who has spent almost 10 years in China after many years of previous experience, mostly in Florida. Having a similar background and culture while in a very foreign place, it was very reassuring to be working for a boss that was familiar. Moreover, as a former teacher, Steven took his time to explain complex issues and to be sure I understood. I participated in the drafting an IPO (initial public offering), and mergers and acquisitions. Most of my time was spent on due diligence, going through documents to check for problem areas.

My biggest surprise was the poor quality of work produced by Chinese attorneys. I expected these educated people to have a better grasp on written English, especially if working with English documents and clients. But a large portion of my time was spent proof reading documents written by the Chinese associates, and revising quite a bit.

My time in China was time well spent. I gained experience in a corporate legal environment, learned a great deal about big business deals with which I had no prior experience, was exposed to a new culture, and generally enjoyed my time. I was, however, happy to return to the quaint town of Athens, where life is less of hassle and the food is generally clean and safe, and there are about 20 million fewer people.

## NEW DELHI, INDIA SOUTH ASIA HUMAN RIGHTS DOCUMENTATION CENTER

#### Muneer Awad

I came into my first year at the University of Georgia School of Law as a very excited and focused student. I understood that a legal education would be a necessary means for me to achieve my aspirations- TO SAVE THE WORLD (that may have been a little hopeful and vague, but a lesser description would be an understatement). However, as the spring semester of my first year came around, I found that my goals had dramatically changed to simply passing my classes. I was beat up from memo writing, and blue booking, and outlining, and midterms. My eyes were blood shot red and my eyelids would not shut, my professors dominated my nightmares, and I had lost the enthusiasm and focus that I had prior to the fall semester.

It wasn't until I accepted my desired summer internship, and spent 10 weeks of my summer overseas in India that I was able to rediscover my passion, which has allowed me to return for my second year of law school with a reinvigorated motivation.

While other law students were focusing their future internships on law firms in and around Georgia, I was fortunate enough to receive advice from international advisor Maria Gimenez about the opportunities offered by the law school for students interested in

working abroad. As a student interested in human rights, international law, and public interest it became clear to me that the South Asia Human Rights Documentation Center (SAHRDC) was a natural fit. I was well aware that the experience I would gain from such an internship would benefit me in my search for future jobs, however I could have never expected the life changing and rewarding enlightenment that awaited me.

After arriving in the New Delhi International airport 10 days after my last final exam, I spent my first night in bed sleepless while sweating in over 100 degree temperatures (I never did get used to the heat, but I was able to get an air conditioner after a week). The heat was not the only thing that I would have to get accustomed to quickly- others included washing my own clothes (thus never having truly clean clothes), adjusting to frequent power outages, haggling for a fair bargain anytime I chose to pull out my wallet, fighting off relentless beggars, and literally dripping sweat all day long.

The next morning I arrived for my first day of work at 9am. The SAHRDC building was structurally modest and camouflaged into the neighboring apartment complexes, tucked very tightly in the southern part of Delhi. As I entered the door I was met by a lower floor of brightly colored saris draped over the secretaries of the Center. I greeted them but my arrival was welcomed by nothing more than a simple head nod of time to spare due to the demanding workload piled onto their desks (the Center never turned away an issue worth advocating). As I went up the stairs to the next 2 floors, other fellow interns greeted me. Some were nearing the end of a long stay, and others were fresh on arrival after the end of their respective school years. The mix of interns created a very diverse work and social atmosphere. There were interns from Australia, Germany, the United States (exclusively Colombia Law, Harvard Law, Yale Law, and Stanford), and interns who were Indian nationals- not fulfilling a school requirement with their summer time, but actually trying to learn more about fighting to better their country by advocating human rights.

By noon on my first day I received a phone call from downstairs asking me to come and meet with Ravi Nair: the founder and head of the SAHRDC. Little did I know at the time that I would be meeting a man who would soon become an influential and inspirational figure in my life. I met with him and my supervisor for the summer Sergei Troie (Stanford and Harvard Law alum). We began to talk about topics of interest in the news, the latest headlines in the Eastern Hemisphere, the War in Iraq, and the global refugee problem facing the UN. Soon after the small talk (which easily lasted over an hour and became a weekly episode), he assigned me my first project- a report on privacy rights at risk under India's proposed multi-purpose national identity card (MNIC) system. I was excited to have an assignment so early, but the work was demanding. The Center emphasizes having flawless work with respect to facts and footnotes, and it is not rare for the editing process to take longer than the initial writing of the report. I was advised to spend nearly a week simply conducting research. I found out about several web sources, government agencies, and hard files that SAHRDC had in their own library. Research was very thorough and every citation was subject to strict scrutiny.

I was also fortunate enough to be in direct contact with my esteemed supervisor, who was an invaluable resource. Through working with him I discovered numerous things about writing styles, rules of international law and human rights, and developing legal arguments that were unknown to me before the summer. We investigated international

doctrines and customs, Western policies on privacy, and Indian history to determine the most convincing way to make our appeal. The report was finalized three weeks later and the Center published it as a Human Rights Feature on its website and emailed it to other human rights agencies and certain government officials around the country.

After the report was complete Ravi promptly assigned me a number of new projects. I quickly realized how stretched the Center was, but I also admired SAHRDC's willingness to tackle every issue that came to them. For the rest of my time at the Center I was responsible for documenting interviews of Afghani refugees in Delhi seeking recognition from the UNHCR and the Indian government, writing a human rights report on the State of Tripura in Eastern India, writing a Human Rights Feature on the smuggling of Indians into Iraq to work for the US military, researching Indian policies in relation to American Army recruiting offices opening up in the country, and editing the work of other interns.

I did not know what the conclusion of my work would lead to, or the direct impacts it would have, but I did know that the work I was doing was intended to assist those in need- those who were unable to help themselves and who had no assistance from anywhere else. I tried to comfort Afghani refugees who explained to me their dire need for asylum in the face of deportation by the Indian government; I read letters from families pleading for someone to help their father, or brother, or son, to find a way out of Iraq after being smuggled there by phony employers, and I interviewed a human rights organizer from Eastern India that described to me the institutionalized torture and killing tactics used by a corrupt police force. However depressing these stories may seem, it was our job not to grieve over the horrid circumstances, but to find ways to bring attention to them and hopefully bring about some form of relief. We diligently wrote reports to government agencies and human rights organizations documenting facts and developing legal arguments to influence some type of response.

Amongst all this work that SAHRDC needed done, it is worth mentioning that I was still able to enjoy India as a vacationer. We were not allowed to take any materials home and we were advised not to talk about our work outside of the office (these were safety measures due to the sensitivity of the work we conducted), thus we had free time everyday after 5:30 pm and over weekends to experience everything India had to offer. Our home city of Delhi had more to do than any other city in India, but we were also able to find more great adventures through our travels across the country. I was fortunate enough to travel to the high mountains of Kashmir, the old forts of Jaipur, the bustling beach city of Mumbai, the coastal cities of Goa, and Agra's Taj Mahal. Ravi was very generous with offering and allowing time off. Although he understood the importance of the work, he was also understanding of the fact that we were working for free, and that we may need more than three days to travel to certain places (I remember informing him that I was leaving to Laddakh for one weekend, and he was quick to tell me I should make it a five day trip).

The internship at SAHRDC made memories to last a lifetime. I fell in love with India: a country that I invested my time and effort to work for. My appreciation for its aesthetic beauty and its diverse population made me appreciate the work we did at SAHRDC much more. I also created amazing friendships and professional relationships with the SAHRDC staff, fellow interns, my supervisor, and other foreigners and Indians whom we crossed paths with during the summer. As I look back I realize that my internship has

helped me develop into a better student and prospective laborer for human rights worldwide.

## NEW DELHI, INDIA PRITI SURI & ASSOCIATES

#### **Robert Thomas**

I was extremely excited, though fairly apprehensive going into the summer, as we had little information as to what our externship at Priti Suri & Associates was to entail. My concern was that the experience would not offer enough of the legal education and experience that I desired. I wanted to work abroad, but wanted legitimate employment receiving meaningful work in the process. We were certainly not disappointed, as PSA gave us several diverse assignments that allowed us to use the various skills we had developed throughout the first year, and further educate us in the process.

Any apprehensions about whether they would have sufficient work for us to do evaporated within the first hour of arriving. We were involved in a conference call with Priti Suri, the partner of the firm, who gave us and our supervising associates a brief idea of what our summer would entail, along with our initial assignments. We immediately familiarized ourselves with the utter basics of Indian contract and arbitration law, along with reading a primer the firm had developed discussing the fundamentals of doing business in India. Prior to arriving in Delhi, I knew that India had a common law system based on English law, but discovering the similarities between our system and theirs was fascinating. The basic tenets of the law are relatively similar across the board.

After finishing this process, we were introduced to the project that would demand the majority of our time throughout the summer. PSA was involved in an arbitration matter that had been going on for over 6 years. The documents and evidence had been compiled into 78 volumes, the first two of which contained the essential facts of the case. We read the first two, and for the remainder of the summer would become rather intimate with the remaining 76.

Our first assignments involved basic research into Indian contract and arbitration law, from which we would then prepare notes for the associates. We primarily interacted with one or two of the associates who had been working on the arbitration case almost exclusively, and though we all spoke the same language, at times communication still broke down. It was the most difficult part of the first two weeks, trying to ensure we understood what was being asked of us.

As the summer progressed, we were given more challenging tasks, including formulating and drafting a defense to a counterclaim in the arbitration case. Of some 28 counterclaims, we were each given one to draft a response to, consisting of between five and

seven pages. This required some significant research into the associated contract law, as we had to substantiate our findings with Indian statutes and common law precedent. We received very positive feedback on our drafts, which were ultimately incorporated into the final document presented to the client, and later the arbitration panel.

Finally, both Joby and I were asked to draft bulletins on topics relating to the Indian economy from the perspective of an American on the outside looking in. I chose to draft an article concerning the dangers to a corporation's intellectual property in the outsourcing economy of India. My research was fascinating, as I learned an incredible amount about the dangers to IP involved in such a process and about the struggles that India currently faces regarding their emergence as an economic power. My efforts resulted in a document that the firm ultimately sent out to each of its clients and prospective clients.

Everyone at the law firm was extremely friendly, informative, and ready to provide instruction, both in the law and concerning their country, for which they harbored immense pride.

Each day at lunch, everyone sat together with their home-cooked meals from their mothers and grandmothers and talked with us about our lives back home, relating their own similar experiences growing up in India.

Both Joby and I were fortunate to get a well-rounded experience from the summer, as living in the chaos of Delhi while working for the firm afforded us the opportunities, both culturally and educationally, that we had been looking forward to and hoping for. Our time in and around Delhi was fascinating, as we were able on the weekends and afternoons to brave the heat and explore the centuries of culture still preserved around the city. After the expiration of our time in Delhi, we took advantage of our summer break and traveled north to the Himalayas and spent the next 3 weeks exploring the area on foot, jeep and motorcycle, while taking some 1500 pictures in the process.

The experience is certainly one I would recommend to anyone desiring to travel abroad, as the work is meaningful and educational, and the travel opportunities that present themselves are once in a lifetime.

## NEW DELHI, INDIA PRITI SURI & ASSOCIATES

#### Joby Young

I spent the summer working at Priti Suri & Associates in New Delhi, India. One other UGA Law student, Robert Thomas, and I spent a little over six weeks at PSA working as externs through the UGA Law Summer Externship program. My experience at PSA was a great opportunity for me and served as a unique introduction to the world of legal practice for a law student recently finished with his first year of law school. Fortunately for Robert and me, soon after we arrived at PSA we were immediately put to work on a project of real importance and consequence. While many summer associates in who go to work in the U.S. spend their summer as recruits and therefore are not given too much work, we stayed quite busy during our summer on an interesting and engaging project.

The matter for which we worked on for the better part of the duration of our externship was arbitration between a German company and an Indian State Corporation where the amount in question totaled over 500 million euros. Initially we spent our time just reviewing case materials and documents in order to gain familiarity with the matter. Thereafter, we spent about two or three weeks doing research and preparing notes on a variety of matters involved in the case. The product of our work during this period supported the efforts of various attorneys working on the matter. During the last two or three weeks of our externship, we were each given responsibility for a defense to a counterclaim of the opposing party. With the input of other attorneys in the firm we both produced defenses to our respective assigned counterclaims, which we were told, went verbatim into the submissions. In addition to our billed work, we also were each assigned an article to write over different legal issues affecting Indian law and business. These articles were distributed to different clients of the firm.

Overall, seeing the operation of Indian law and the international law issues that the firm had to deal with was a very educational experience. The true global nature of the world that we live in was readily apparent. Gaining the viewpoint which we did and seeing the operation of the law in worldwide sense will give us both a perspective that will serve us well in our professional lives in the future no matter which area of law we choose to make careers out of.

Outside of the work we did while in India, we had some great travel experiences that introduced us to a whole new culture and way of life. Any discussion of travel in India is dishonest without mention of the serious social problems that face the country and probably will continue to in the foreseeable future. Overpopulation, filth, the obvious continuation of the evils of the caste system, and various others; all of these things face a traveler at every turn and must be endured in order to explore any part of the country. Aside from those things, however, we enjoyed our little exploration of India, which we were able to do. We thoroughly explored Delhi and all of its historical gems and also some of the Golden Triangle, including the Taj Mahal. We made a weekend trip to Haridwar, an important pilgrimage city, and Rishikesh, the world capital of yoga. We also got to visit a famous Hindu temple, which was quite an experience. At the end of our time at PSA, we took a trip

to Ladakh, the northernmost region of India, in the Himalayas. The trip to Ladakh was the highlight of our time in India. The place is absolutely gorgeous with the most impressive mountains I have probably ever seen. In Ladakh, we went on an eight-day trek in the mountains and took a motorcycle trip over the world's highest road. All in all, our trip to India was a very rewarding experience, both professionally and personally. Maybe next summer I'll choose another destination.

## Amman, Jordan Legal Affairs Department Jordan Securities Commission

#### Patrick Nish Arndt

For six weeks this summer I worked in the Legal Affairs Department of the Jordan Securities Commission. This internship afforded me the opportunity to make a substantive contribution to the development of securities law in Jordan, as well as a chance to visit a wonderful country filled with kind and generous people.

The purpose of my internship was to complete a comparative law analysis on insider trading regulation. The Commission is in the process of updating and strengthening its securities regulations, and one area of particular concern is insider trading. Despite laws on the books prohibiting the practice, there have been very few prosecutions and no convictions for trading based on inside information. I looked at the way that insider-trading regulations had developed in the United States and in Europe. The purpose of this research was so that the Commission could avoid some of the drafting and interpretive mistakes made by western stock exchanges. My boss and I are still working on the final draft of our recommendations to the Commissioner, but he is hopeful that several of our recommendations will be adopted into the revised security regulations. The opportunity to have a tangible impact on Jordanian law is an exciting prospect.

In addition to my research, I also was able to meet with several department heads of the Commission. Each was very informative in showing me the inner-workings of the stock exchange. For example, the head of the Enforcement Division showed me how she and her colleagues monitored trading activity to detect fraud and insider trading. I also met with the head of the Legal Research Department, who told me about the history of the exchange as well as how his department used comparative law research to shape Jordanian law.

During my weeks in Jordan I stayed in a hotel in the middle of Amman. Downtown Amman is a study in contrasts. Local merchants selling keffiyeh push their carts in front of shops selling the latest Hollywood bootleg DVDs. Women wearing hijabs and burquas walk and chat with women with jeans and tank tops. Cultural and historical sites are integrated into the downtown area: the Roman Theatre sits across the street from a fast food place and the Husseini Mosque is across from an outdoor market.

Outside of the city, there are impressive ruins at Jerash, and floating on the Dead Sea was unlike anything I have ever experienced. Most memorable of all, however, was Petra. Petra, which is probably best known to westerners from the Indiana Jones films, is truly breathtaking. Basically, enormous structures are carved out of rose-colored stone. It was recently named one of the new Seven Wonders of the World, and Jordanians are very proud of it. It must be seen to be fully appreciated.

Jordan's best feature, however, are its people. Nearly everyone that I met was very welcoming and helpful. Most people that I met were excited to try out their English with a native speaker. Strangers would come up to me in the street to welcome me to their country and to ask about the United States. While I didn't meet many fans of the current American President, the general opinion towards the United States was surprisingly positive. Everyone went out of his or her way to be very helpful, and I received several invitations to dinner from people whom I had five-minute conversations with.

In sum, I am very grateful for having the opportunity to travel to Amman. My work was very interesting, and I feel lucky to have been exposed to Jordanian culture. It is an experience that I will not soon forget.

## **EUROPE**

## BRUSSELS, BELGIUM VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT

#### Martelli-Yndee Borieux

This summer, I had the opportunity to work with Dr. Stephaan Smis. Dr. Smis is a law professor at the Vrije Universiteit in Brussels specializing in International Law.

As a research assistant, I was given the assignment of researching basic documents on security and economic integration in Africa. There were several reasons why this research was being done. While the needs of the 53 countries in Africa vary, there are some common characteristics that most African countries share. These characteristics include the desire for political stability and the predilection for economic development. As Dr. Smis noted, "political serenity without the betterment of the general welfare of the majority of the population in economic terms is hard to sustain. The seeds of economic development can hardly germinate on a turbulent political terrain."

With an ideological framework in mind, this research targeted regional and sub-regional blocs in Africa. The end result of the research was to produce a volume of basic documents on regional integration in Africa. There were four reasons for this research. First, from an educative standpoint, the text will serve as a handy companion for students and practitioners who are interested in the issue of regional integration in Africa. Second, from a geographic perspective, the volume hopes to coalesce all the main texts of the regional integration processes of north, south, east, west and central Africa in one effort. Third, from a temporal point of view, there are many regional and sub-regional integration shifts that are underway in Africa. Finally, by focusing on security and economic integration the goal is not to sequestrate the issues but to highlight the manner in which they linked in regional integration initiatives.

The research initially started off a little slow. I had a hard time pulling up the documents that I needed. I pretty much started off by going to the regional and sub-regional websites to search the documents listed. Very few of the websites had the documents that I needed. I then called the United Nations and obtained access to their treaty collection. This proved useful in some ways but it didn't quite fulfill my concentrated research. I then relegated to going to various websites that included the documents that I needed. I took my research a step further and started calling the regional and sub-regional organizations in Africa. By the time that I realized that the most effective way to access the documents was to call the organizations, the externship was completed. However, I am still in the process of contacting the various organizations to extract those documents from them. I also vowed to Dr. Smis that I would continue to work with him on this research and other research projects that may come up in the near future.

## BRUSSELS, BELGIUM VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT

### **Greg Smith**

I participated in the 2007 UGA Law Summer Externship Abroad program; I worked at the Vrije Universitat Brussel (VUB) for Professor Kim van der Borght. The project he asked me to participate in involved the legal aspects of Islamic financing in Europe. Islamic financing is a niche form of banking, which allows religiously pious Muslims and customers seeking ethically neutral banking products to participate in the financial sector. The basic principle behind Islamic financing revolves around its refusal to impose interest rates on customers; each of the Western religions have traditionally barred the use of interest in banking, but this practice has fallen away over the years. The Middle East oil boom of the 1970s, combined with a resurrection of cultural preservation efforts have lead Islamic leaders to encourage (and sometimes require) that members of the faith follow the strict tenets of Islamic banking. Further features of Islamic banking include refusal to invest in immoral or overly speculative business undertakings; this approach can appeal to some consumers outside of the Islamic faith, since these requirements often lead to conservative investment and banking practices. The practice of Islamic banking has become a major new trend in international banking, and some experts predict that it will see huge growth over the next few years.

My work experience consisted of calling and emailing international banks and law firms and attempting to arrange interviews about their involvement in the world of Islamic banking. I found it quite difficult to get much information using this method; bankers and lawyers were clearly uncomfortable sharing information on a highly competitive market with a random student-researcher. Due to this I resorted to using secondary information to create a paper explaining the legal obstacles to the spread of Islamic financing throughout the EU. I was provided with an office to complete my work in, but I often worked from home in order to save time and money on tram and bus fare (2 euro per trip!) I rarely used the library facilities at the VUB, and since I was working during the exam period and beginning of summer it was often difficult to get in contact with anyone working at the university. This was frustrating at times, since I had little experience with the issues I was working with and some guidance would have been appreciated.

Brussels was an excellent place to work and study. While working at the VUB, I lived in a building catering specifically towards interns; I found the apartment online through a service called 'trainees in Brussels.' The apartment was located in the Ixelles neighborhood just outside of the city center of Brussels. Immediately near the apartment was the African immigrant neighborhood, which I have been told is unsafe, but I never experienced the slightest amount of trouble. Also, the European parliament was just around the corner. I was able to find a large grocery store, a gym, plenty of nightspots, and restaurants within easy walking distance of the apartment. The apartment itself was a little dated and dark, but it featured a nice kitchenette with hot plates and a microwave. Additionally, they offered twice weekly maid service included in the rent. For six weeks of housing I paid just over 1100 euro.

My lone complaint about Brussels as a city was the weather. It was consistently cloudy, rainy, and 50 degrees. I suppose it beats the oppressive heat in Athens, but some sunshine would have been nice. However, this did not spoil the trip, and I would certainly go back.

## BRUSSELS, BELGIUM INTERNATIONAL LESBIAN AND GAY ASSOCIATION

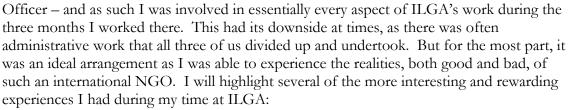
#### Michael Petty

This past summer I have had the good fortune of working for the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) in Brussels, Belgium. ILGA is a world-wide network of national and local groups dedicated to achieving equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) people across the globe. Founded in 1978, it now has more than 560 member organizations. Every continent and approximately 90 countries are represented. ILGA is to this day the only international non-profit and non-governmental community-based federation focused on preventing discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation as a global issue.

One of the major reasons I decided to attend law school was because of my interest in and commitment to progressive social movements. Prior to attending law school I had been very active in several local LGBT and HIV/AIDS non profit organizations. I thought that somehow law school would help me turn my passions into a career, but after two years

of law school I remained unsure of where my future lie or how my degree was going to help me pursue my goals. My experience at ILGA has introduced me to the fascinating world of international human rights and has given me the direction I need as I begin to prepare for my career.

The ILGA office staff is very small – only two full time positions, a Woman's Project Officer and a Communication



• On the very first day of work I accompanied the Communications Officer to a meeting with several high-ranking members from the Parti Socialiste (the French-speaking socialist party in Belgium, currently the second largest party in Belgium and part of the governing coalition).

- Later in the summer I accompanied the Communications Officer to the European Parliament. We were invited by several MEPs (Members of the European Parliament) to participate in a Press Conference and several meetings concerning recent violence at a Gay Pride demonstration in Moscow. One of the MEPs, Sophie in 't Veld from the Netherlands, read a declaration during the plenary session requesting that the President of the Parliament inquire into the matter. I met several MEPs including Deputy in 't Veld, Deputy Michael Cashman, a MEP from the UK and former soap opera star. The day I attended was the day Bulgaria officially joined the EU and I met several Bulgarian MEPs on their first day on the job! Also accompanying were several of the organizers of the event in Moscow and a German documentary filmmaker.
- I researched and wrote various memos to the members of both the ILGA world board and the ILGA African regional board on topics as diverse as grants, trademarks in the US and EU, and obtaining 501(c)(3) status in the US.
- I helped organize and plan the ILGA World Board meeting to be held in September in Washington, D.C. This involved communicating with activists from across the globe. One of the more interesting aspects of this was ensuring that a board member from Peru who is transgendered would be able to enter the US and return home without difficulty. We were concerned that because she is now a female, but all of her official documents indicate she is a male, she might experience trouble obtaining a US visa or returning to Peru.
- Attended Gay Pride celebrations in Cologne, Germany as the representative from ILGA.
- Attended a meeting, as the sole representative of ILGA, with business men from across Europe and members of the European Gay Managers Association.
- During the course of the summer I was able to network with and make connections with activists from across the globe. I visited a well known and long time LGBT and trade union activist, Kursad Kahramanoglu, at his home in Istanbul. I met with the staff of Frontline, an Irish NGO that "seeks to provide rapid and practical support to at-risk human rights defenders ... and to promote the visibility and recognition of human rights defenders as a vulnerable group" across the globe. I met the Executive Director of Interights, a NGO that aims to "strengthen human rights jurisprudence and mechanisms through the use of international and comparative law." And of course I worked closely with many activists involved with ILGA.
- I worked closely with LGBT activists in Africa and Latin America to strengthen their regional movements through the use of regional websites that I helped develop and build. I also coordinated the translation of documents into the four languages used by ILGA: English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish.

These examples are but a highlight of some of the more exciting aspects of my work with ILGA. This experience has been a life-changing one for me. Professionally, I gained insight into what a career in this field might be like and because of that insight I can begin my final year of law school and my job search with a renewed sense of passion and direction.

## Brussels, Belgium International Law Association

#### **Daniel Tilley**

I spent the summer working for the Belgian branch of the International Law Association. For this, one week was spent in London, and three weeks in Brussels. I followed the externship with another three weeks in Brussels, at the Georgia Program in Brussels (a seminar on the history and institutions of the European Union).

The objectives set out by my boss (Prof. Kim van der Borght) in the initial email communication included writing a 10-15 page institutional history of the ILA, with a specific focus on the contributions of the Belgian branch. This was to be done with the hopes that this newly re-energized branch could secure additional funding – perhaps from the Belgian government, for example.

After accepting the internship, it was suggested that I spend a week in London because the ILA archives are located at a library of the University of London in Russell Square. Because of the paucity of information on the ILA available elsewhere, this aspect of the trip proved to be the most valuable. Indeed, without spending those days in London, writing the paper would have been quite impossible. The information on the ILA outside of the archives is scarce – the only real information to be found elsewhere is on the ILA's website itself.

The archives were fairly substantial. My boss arranged access by contacting the library and getting me in touch with them. For their files, they also required an official letter from him stating my intentions. After being in contact with the library staff in the weeks leading up to my visit, my arrival went seamlessly. I was given my own library card with an activated barcode, along with a free locker in the basement where I could store my things. They also gave me a desk back in the area where all the staff worked. From there, I could "order" up to three items at a time from the basement archives – one of the library staff would have to fetch them for me. Before arriving, I had already prepared a list of the items in the archives – which are listed online – that I wanted to see. I simply went down the list, taking notes on my laptop as I went along. As the week drew near its end, I also began making photocopies and taking pictures of pages with my digital camera. Because of library regulations, anything desired copying had to first be approved, and afterwards had to be recorded in a file. Although I had to wait until the archivist was there before I could make any copies (she only worked on Wednesdays), after speaking with her, she essentially gave me free license to copy whatever I wanted, as long as I wrote down what I copied. The digital camera proved essential, because most of the documents were quite fragile and old (and some were of an unwieldy size), and she didn't want them placed on the photocopier.

My accommodations in London were both good and bad. I spent the first half of the week in a Lutheran Student Centre I found on the Internet. That was a very nice experience – it was clean and inexpensive, and the staff was very friendly. It was also only a ten-minute walk from my work. Because they were overbooked, I was only allowed to stay a few days. I was forced to find a cheap hotel, which proved to be acceptable, but less than desirable.

Because the library closed around 5:30, I had my evenings in London free. The city is extremely expensive, which meant I only ate food bought from the grocery store. I spent very little money, most likely walking around (happily so) and attending free shows at various art galleries. I also attended one theatre piece.

The Brussels experience was quite different. Because my work was not affiliated with my boss's university work, I was not allowed to work at the VUB (the Vrije Universitaet Brussels, where he teaches). This meant I spent much of my time sitting in my apartment going over my extensive notes, reading through all the documents I had photocopied and photographed, and writing the paper. Since I had my own schedule, I was free to come and go as I pleased. I worked mostly every day, including weekends, although I did not work all day. The flexible work schedule allowed me to take walks in the morning and also see the sights and shops while they were still open. (One complaint of participants of the Brussels EU Program was that all the stores and attractions were closed after our day of lectures were finished.)

I met with my boss only a few times, although this was not problematic. He was reachable by email if I ever needed anything, but I rarely required anything. I did most everything by myself. Because of certain features of the ILA's institutional history, the objectives given to me, in particular those relating the history and contributions of the Belgian branch could not be fulfilled. This was due to historical factors and characteristics of the ILA and its archives that were not apparent or entirely understood by us at the beginning of the assignment. As a result, my 15-page paper is essentially an institutional history of the ILA as a whole. Hopefully, it will be published in upcoming ILA newsletters.

# SIBIU, ROMANIA CABINET INDIVIDUAL DE AVOCATURA FLORIN POPOVICI

#### Raluca L. Hanea

#### A little bit of introduction

Romania joined NATO on March 29, 2004, and the European Union (EU) on January 1, 2007. Romania has the seventh largest population and the ninth largest territory in the EU. (wikipedia.org)

The justice system is independent of the other branches of government, and is made up of a hierarchical system of courts culminating in the High Court of Cassation and Justice, which is the supreme court of Romania. There are also courts of appeal, county courts and local courts. The Romanian judicial system is strongly influenced by the French model, considering that it is based on civil law and is inquisitorial in nature. The Constitutional Court (Curtea Constitutională) is responsible for judging the compliance of laws and other

state regulations to the Romanian Constitution, which is the fundamental law of the country. The constitution, which was introduced in 1991, can only be amended by a public referendum; the last amendment was in 2003. The Romanian Constitutional Court structure is based on the Constitutional Council of France, being made up of nine judges who serve nine-year, non-renewable terms. Following the 2003 constitutional amendment, the court's decisions cannot be overruled by any majority of the parliament. (wikipedia.org)

The country's entry into the European Union in 2007 has been a significant influence on its domestic policy. As part of the process, Romania has instituted reforms including judicial reform, increased judicial cooperation with other member states, and measures to combat corruption. (wikipedia.org).

#### About the Firm

Mr. Popovici, together with Mr. Serban, conduct a general practice law office since 2000. (We graduated from the same law school, one year apart.) Their office is located right across from the Sibiu County Court House. The cases that this small office takes are very diverse but mostly they work on real estate closings, wills, trusts and estates, landlord and tenant disputes and agricultural land disputes. However, they also litigate criminal law cases and commercial transactions breach of contracts.

Most of their cases are litigated in the local court (the equivalent of the small claims courts in US) but only 40% of the cases are settled before the law suit is started.

#### <u>About the internship</u>

Some of the cases that Mr. Popovici was working on were already appealed to the Court of Appeal in Alba-Iulia, another city located at cca. 60 km from Sibiu. I did not travel to the Court of Appeal during my externship but I did participate in the lawsuit hearings for a theft case and a breach of a commercial contract case in the local court (Judecatorie).



The judicial reforms in Romania are numerous and from an attorney stand point that means that it takes a lot of effort to stay current with the legislation-- especially in a small firm with a general practice as the one I have interned at. There are a few software programs that enable the attorney to keep up with the changes in the legislation but these programs – similar with Westlaw or LexisNexis in the United States – are costly for a small practice and many small firms can not afford them. There is the official law publication that is published every month that offers the same service and is used by the majority of attorneys. One of the things that I was in charge of was to verify this publication for all the changes of different laws and to update the attorney about it.

From the beginning Mr. Popovici was very helpful and he explained to me in detail their everyday work. My program was 4 to 6 hours a day from Monday to Friday and sometimes less or more depending on the attorney's daily tasks. The atmosphere was always cordial and the attorneys very helpful and willing to explain me everything that I needed.

There were always deadlines to be met and things to be done and I was never bored. I had the chance to read many of the files Mr. Popovici was working on. I prepared for him a short report with all the documents gathered in the file and a list of potential documents still needed to be added to the file, per his instructions.

I also helped him with client interrogations and paper information filling. I was very excited that I got to speak with the clients; I met other attorneys and two judges. All Romanian law professionals that I met were very interested in the American system of law and it was a privilege for me to be able to answer their questions. This experience allowed me to see what the weaknesses are as well as the good points of both American and Romanian system of law and they gave me a practical understanding of the application of law in today's Romania. I think this is a must see experience that any law student should have for both personal and professional enrichment and the law firm of Mr. Popovici located in the beautiful medieval city of Sibiu, in the heart of Romania, has provided me with a great experience and they are looking forward to offering the same to any other American law student.

## **O**CEANIA

### PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA UNIVERSITY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

#### Terressa Davis

In 2004, an archaeological fellowship brought me to the small Southeast Asian nation of Cambodia, but there I discovered I preferred development work to excavation. This realization led me to Heritage Watch, a non-profit organization fighting to save the country's rich ancient legacy. After two years as that organization's Project Coordinator, however, I decided that earning my law degree was the best way to effectuate progress in Cambodia or elsewhere. Since I remained committed to Asia, the strong international law program at the University of Georgia greatly appealed to me, as did the school's many overseas legal opportunities.

Just months after I began law school, one such opportunity presented itself in Papua New Guinea, an island nation in the South Pacific. Due to a lack of funding and personnel, the Papua New Guinea Law Reports — the only official codification of the country's Supreme Court judgments — had not been published since 2000, leaving the country without a standardized common law for the last six years. The people — and even the courts



— were therefore unable to know the very law that governed them. This deficiency was hindering the already strained court system and severely jeopardizing the national administration of justice.



Thanks to my previous work experience in Southeast Asia, I professionally felt capable of helping to revive of the PNGLR. The opportunity, however, also meant a great deal to me personally. I would be the third generation of my family to travel to Papua New Guinea — my grandfather had fought there during World War II and my uncle had later spent years there as a civil engineer. Furthermore, while earning my degree in archaeology, I had become fascinated by the island's hundreds of tribal cultures, some of which still live in complete isolation from the modern world. By working on this project, I would not only get to visit one of the world's most exotic

countries, but also make a positive contribution there.

In May of 2007, I arrived in the capital of Port Moresby, a beautiful but crime-ridden coastal city. I was given an office at the University of Papua New Guinea School of Law, where I worked under Dr. R.W. James, an internationally renowned legal scholar who was directing the publication of the PNGLR. Dr. James has held numerous professorships around the world, served as the dean of two law schools, and acted as an official legal advisor to several countries. It was clearly an honor to work for him.

My first task was to develop and submit project proposals requesting funding from major international foundations. While I was certain of the strength of the project, I also realized it had some limitations. Namely that the printed editions of the PNGLR would only be available to a small percentage of the population due to the great difficulty, expense, and danger of domestic travel. If judges, lawyers, and citizens outside of the country's capital were to have access to the governing law, the PNGLR also needed to be published in a free, easily accessible, searchable, online database. Such a resource would be invaluable to the legal and academic community in Papua New Guinea, in addition to lawyers and scholars throughout the region and the world.

As I have designed non-for-profit databases in the past, I was very interested in heading up this particular aspect of the project. But such a massive undertaking could not be completed in the two months I had planned to be in Papua New Guinea. Furthermore, once the database was complete, the judiciary, legal community, and faculty of the School of Law must be trained in its use. I therefore decided to return to Papua New Guinea next summer to see the project through its completion.

The framework of the PNGLR database is now complete, and over the next year I will continue to work on it from the United States. By next summer it will be finished and I will return to Port Moresby to launch it and conduct training in its use. I am very excited about being a part of this project — and continuing to be a part of this project. I never thought that I would have such an opportunity during law school. The fact that I did, to me, is the greatest strength of the University of Georgia School of Law.

## **SOUTH AMERICA**

# BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA THE CLOROX COMPANY

#### Rohan Kale

My summer 2007 externship in Argentina brought with it two different types of experience. On one hand was the amazing professional opportunity working for in-house counsel at The Clorox Company International Legal Team. The nights and weekends turned me into a tourist, carrying with it all the sights and sounds of the unique culture in Buenos Aires. These were two very distinct types of experiences, so I will discuss each separately.



### The Internship –Working for the Clorox In-House Counsel

Buenos Aires is the headquarters of the International Legal Team for Clorox. While all legal issues in Mexico, the United States, and Canada are handled from Oakland, California, all legal issues outside of North America (with the exception of a few Caribbean islands) are handled from Buenos Aires. Considering the amount of responsibility the team has, their numbers are very small. The team consists of the legal director, two senior attorneys, two paralegals, and a secretary. I'd like to make a side note by saying that these people were the best colleagues and mentors one could ask for in a work environment. From the day I walked into the office to the day I left, they went out of their way to make sure I felt like I was part of the team.

While the team is responsible for managing all legal disputes with Clorox as a party worldwide, my work as an intern focused on three separate projects. I was reporting on their litigation proceedings worldwide, surveying all the previous international trademark infringements and oppositions for Clorox, and assisting in the negotiation and drafting of their international commercial contracts.

The report on the litigation proceedings: My first day I was given an overview of the different litigation that Clorox was currently involved in worldwide. The problem that the team had was that there were hundreds of pending cases, all being handled by international law firms for Clorox in the respective countries, but there was no central database to consult for the latest update on these litigation proceedings. For each litigation proceeding that Clorox needed updated, the attorneys had to request the law firms they had hired to send them reports. My task was to contact the different law firms and learn about the different issues Clorox was dealing with, and then create a report that contained all the litigation information in a growing database. Clorox now has this report I prepared, which will allow them to keep a dynamic database of their pending international cases.

This gave me the opportunity to gain an understanding of what types of legal disputes Clorox, as an American multinational company, was involved in worldwide. This did become a little repetitious and frustrating (many times the reports from different law firms in different countries were very poorly translated). However, it did give me a significant chance to understand the type of work an international lawyer deals with.

The trademark database: Similar to the litigation report, there was worldwide Clorox IP that was being infringed, all which needed to be input into a master database. My second assignment was to research the different infringements and oppositions that Clorox encountered and organize it and report on it by country. This gave me an opportunity to understand the chaotic nature of intellectual property internationally – each country having its own standards, with many countries operating in inefficiency (some middle eastern governments took years to recognize filed trademark oppositions).

The international contract negotiations: By far my favorite and greatest legal experience I gleaned at Clorox was the contract work I did. At first, the attorneys had me issue spotting in one of their international advertising agreements that was being drafted with a TV marketing agency in Mexico. The other side had initially drafted the contract, so I had many recommendations for changes to the contract. I was pleasantly amazed when the attorneys listened to my suggestions and entered them as part of the contract negotiations. Unfortunately I could not attend negotiations, as they were in Spanish. After that contract, I assisted the attorneys in issue spotting distribution agreements in Western Europe and manufacturing agreements in Russia. For one of my final projects, Clorox needed to terminate a relationship with a distributor in Hungary. The attorneys asked me to review the requirements of the European business team and then draft a termination agreement.

The substantive legal work listed above gave me the perfect opportunity to understand how an American multinational company functions in the legal spectrum outside the United States. Even though I was there for just seven weeks, the contract negotiations I was working on were very substantial and hands on.

I think it's also important to note a second type of professional experience I gleaned. I was working for in-house counsel, who hired many international law firms to represent them in different matters. This gave me a very unique perspective – the perspective of the client. This type of experience is invaluable to a prospective attorney working for a law firm in the United States – it gave me the opportunity to see things from the client's perspective, and really understand what a client needs from a law firm.

### The Cultural Experience – Living in the heart of Buenos Aires

The other aspect of my seven weeks in Argentina was also very unique. I was living in the heart of the city, buying groceries at a local supermercado, taking the bus to work – and blending in with the porteño populace. The food is absolutely amazing and cheap – I had amazing steak dinners about three times a week. A quality meal, which would have cost \$50 in the US, but cost me \$15 in Buenos Aires.

After the first week there, I became more accustomed to public transportation and started taking the bus system and subways around. A note about the location of Clorox – it is actually outside Buenos Aires in a small town called Aldo Bonzi. Taking the bus, my

commute time was about an hour on the bus itself, and a 30-minute walk from the bus station to my apartment. This itself was a unique experience, and I didn't mind the commute.

Many times my coworkers took me out to various spots in the city – I was taken to a tango show by one of my friends at work, and one of the attorneys invited me to join his family at their farmhouse outside of the city for an asado (an Argentine barbecue).

During the weekends I became a typical tourist, camera slung around my neck, visiting the recommended museums and popular landmarks in the city. Each neighborhood of Buenos Aires has its own distinct culture, character, and feel. My most enjoyable moments as a tourist were during my strolls around my favorite neighborhoods of San Telmo (the old town in BsAs, with cobblestone roads and a rich history) and Puerto Madero (the ultra modern part of town with skyrocketing real estate). While I didn't have the time to leave the city to visit any of the neighboring provinces, I did take the train one weekend to the nearby town of Tigre, which is a small town by a river delta. I also saw an amazing Tango show my last night in BsAs and also a theater performance in the city to get a fuller taste of the culture.

Buenos Aires is a beautiful place. My one regret is not being able to some of the other famous regions, such as Mendoza – the famous Argentine wine country. Both the legal experience and the cultural experience were extremely unique and catalysts for personal growth. I envy the next student who has the opportunity to travel there.

# SANTIAGO, CHILE CHILEAN MINISTRY OF ECONOMY

### **Charles Biskobing**

The Energy Efficiency Program is a department within the Chilean Ministry of Economy. This Program seeks to increase the efficiency of energy usage throughout various sectors of the Chilean economy. Some industries are of particular interest due to their importance in the Chilean economy. There is also a focus on increasing consumer knowledge and understanding of energy efficiency. It is likely that in future the Program will be under the Ministry of Energy, but this is not yet certain. Some political issues regarding gas availability may require it to stay put.

The Program is relatively new, having been created in 2005. Since there is still much to learn about the state of energy efficiency in Chile, the current focus of the program is on research and studies of the various sectors of the economy. Other studies focus on which technologies are available to decrease energy usage. For instance, the Program is studying ways to create incentives for electricity providers to encourage consumers to save electricity. In addition, a plan to create efficiency standards for new buildings and consumer appliances

is already under way. Other important sectors under study include mining, transportation, public works, and firewood. Mining is the single most important industry in Chile. The largest copper mine in the world is located in the north, and there are several smaller ones scattered throughout the country. Any small breakthrough in efficiency in this sector would pay great dividends in terms of energy savings. Firewood may seem to fall outside of the general theme of the Program, but it is of particular importance for rural communities. Efficient management of the supply as well as its use is essential. While the program has set out some main areas to focus on, there is still a lot of work to be done to achieve its goals.

As of now the Program consists of 12 people: one director, one lawyer, one environmental advisor, an accountant, a public relations/media specialist, five project directors, and two assistants. As noted, the current focus of the program is research, although implementation of some plans has been or is currently being accomplished. As the Program has rather limited resources, it must outsource much of its work.

Sometimes the Program contracts directly with private or public entities to handle a study or task. In order to choose with whom it will contract the program firsts requests bids. The bids must take account the nature of the work being requested and include plans for how specific requirements will be fulfilled. The Program will then evaluate the bids based on criterion such as price, experience, etc. that are set out in the initial bid request. The winning bidder then enters into a contract for the work set out in the bid request. The contracts specify requirements for the work, and the criterion by which their completion will be evaluated.

Other times, the Program works directly with other government agencies to effectuate studies in the focus area. For instance, the Ministry of Mining was asked to undertake a study regarding the efficiency of electronic drills. The Program then transferred funds to the Ministry of Mining, as well as delegated authority for the project, through a "convenio". This convenio is a contract with the other agency, which will either handle the work directly or outsource it themselves. The Program director and/or the Minister of Economy and the Minister of the relevant agency must both sign off on the agreement.

Juan Harcha is the Program's lawyer and the contact for externs. He received his L.L.M. from UGA while also studying Ecology at the graduate level. Juan is a great guy and is very helpful. He speaks perfect English but is more than happy to help you with your Spanish. He will make sure that you learn about Chilean culture, politics, and the legal system. For instance, we visited the Supreme Court on a couple of occasions and even sat in on a hearing of the Appeals Court. We also discussed the court's history and the structure of the Chilean legal system in general. Juan was responsible for delegating most of my tasks to me, too.

My primary task was the creation of a data table/base of the agreements and studies so that members of the Program could quickly find agreements and check the status of the work. In order to accomplish this I first received a brief overview of the program and went over the agreements that are currently in effect. I looked over both the bid requests and the contracts that ensued from these requests. I also looked over the intergovernmental convenios. After doing this, I spent a couple of weeks organizing the agreements into a data table/base. After presenting the organizational system to the Program members, I made

some suggested changes to help ensure that it would be as helpful as possible. The project seems to have been successfully completed, and I feel like they were happy with my work.

Beyond this project, I also was able to help with some smaller tasks. Foremost, and a task that was mostly legal type work, was a research request from the Program's environmental advisor. He was working on a project that was outside the scope of the Program, and he asked if I could help. He was interested in finding out about specific US environmental regulations related to salmon aquaculture. Chile exports huge amounts of salmon. In fact, it is their second most important export after copper. I spent 3 days looking into what rules the US has regarding pollution at salmon aquaculture sites. This included pollution from the fish, their food, the cage, and chemicals used in the process of raising the fish. I also looked at rules regarding potential escape of the salmon, their effect on nonnative species and the possibility of diseases spreading. I passed on any relevant rules on to the advisor.

The externship also allowed me to take part in some law related activities outside of the Program. As noted previously I visited the Supreme Court a couple of times, and discussed the Chilean legal system with Juan on several occasions. I had a chance to meet many other Ministry of Economy lawyers, too. One of them who worked on international settlement proceedings suggested that I attend a conference on private international contract law. I was able to attend the conference and gained a basic understanding of the topic. The focus of the conference was UNIDROIT, an organization that works to harmonize private international law, and the principles they have put forward regarding contract law.

Overall, as an extern my duties were somewhat limited. This had to do with the current focus of the Program, as well as this being the first time they had had an extern. As the focus right now is on large studies, the volume of agreements being handled is somewhat low. In addition, there is not really the regulatory structure that we have here in the US, or at least not with regard to the Program, so I did not have the opportunity to work on any regulations or draft legislation. I am certain that as the Program's understanding and goals expand, there will be more opportunities for extern interaction with the work. Since this year was a sort of trial run for the externship program, I think the group may not have been really sure what to do with me. Also, I only spent four weeks in the office. I recommend that any future externs spend more time in order to participate in projects of longer duration.

Overall, the externship was a great experience. Chile is a fascinating country; one of my favorite in the world. Chileans are friendly people who are happy to help you when they can. The country has unbelievable variety of landscapes, and there is an abundance of culture. While there I met many intelligent and interesting people and worked in a program whose significance cannot be understated. Energy issues will dominate the Twenty-first Century, so the chance to take part in a program dedicated to solving some of these issues was an incredible opportunity. I definitely recommend that any person who has the chance to participate do so.

# GEORGETOWN, GUYANA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

### Bennett Bryan

My summer in Guyana, South America, was a positive experience both professionally and culturally.

First, the professional experience was enlightening and challenging. Within five minutes of work on my first day, I received a heavy assignment. One of the supervising attorneys asked me to respond to a draft bill proposed by the government of Trinidad and Tobago. The draft bill concerned extradition law and reflected Trinidad's desire to establish a uniform system of extradition among the former UK Commonwealths of the Caribbean. My assignment was to compare the proposed draft bill with Guyana's current extradition laws and decide whether it would be practically feasible for Guyana to adopt this new bill. After much research and analysis, it became clear that Guyana could not adopt this bill without sacrificing important appellate review procedures. Of course, there will be no final disposition on the matter for months or even years, but I look forward to following up on the matter to see if Guyana's parliament will join the other Caribbean nations in establishing uniform extradition law. Also, the assignment was especially important because it took place in the context of a very public extradition argument between the United States and Guyana concerning the alleged terrorists (from Guyana) who plotted a bomb attack at JFK airport. This was one of many projects that forced me to accept responsibility for real-world work that required my attention.

Second, spending two months in Guyana was a challenging yet rewarding cultural experience. We lived in a nice apartment, but we had to learn how to cope with frequent power outages and dirty tap water. We took taxis everywhere because walking presented a risk of criminal attack or mugging. Though I never felt truly unsafe, we did not venture far from our apartment without a local friend or a taxi. Fortunately, we did make many Guyanese friends who were more than willing to go out of their way to show us a good time. Guyanese are very proud of their country and hospitality and went to lengths to ensure we Americans would have positive things to say upon our return.

We also had the chance to escape the city (Georgetown) and explore the interior of the country. My second weekend consisted of a trip to Iwokrama, a government sponsored preservation and exploration center located in the heart of Guyana's rainforest. This weekend included delicious native foods and exciting activities. One activity that stood out was a canopy walk. After a drive deep in the forest, we hiked a steep hill. At the top of the hill began a series of net bridges that stretched out across top of the canopy – 100 ft above the forest floor. We also went on a night boat tour and saw the glowing eyes of snakes and cayman among the trees and swamps of the area. It was interesting to come within meters of these animals without a fence or barrier separating man from animal.

These anecdotes only provide a glimpse into my experience in Guyana, yet I believe they speak volumes about the rewards of stretching oneself to explore and take advantage of

the great opportunities provided by the University of Georgia. I would highly recommend that a law student consider international travel during the first summer of school.

# GEORGETOWN, GUYANA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

#### Rebecca Dobras

My Guyana experience was so rewarding – I could not imagine a better way to spend my summer. At first I was worried about going to Guyana – that it would be too dangerous, both for my safety and my health. However, we had absolutely no problems, and I felt totally comfortable with my surroundings the great majority of the time. Throughout my time there, I did a lot of interesting legal work, met some of the nicest people I have ever encountered, and explored different areas of the country.

Doing work at the attorney general's chambers was certainly a learning experience. Upon learning that the office did not have Internet, a reliable phone service, or easily accessible laws/cases, we had to take a more traditional approach to our legal work. Since we could not hop onto the Internet, we had to make appointments with people, go to different offices, and visit Parliament to find laws ourselves in order to complete our research. Though getting used to this was often frustrating, it allowed us to be more connected to actual people, an aspect that seems to be missing in our highly technological society.

I did a few interesting projects; however, I felt sometimes my work was menial – the work that the lawyers did not want to do – like silly surveys that really had no legal aspect to it. However, I did enjoy a few projects – those involving UN resolutions, and a brief involving prosecutorial discretion. The two UN resolutions concerned the defamation of religion and drug control; my job was to see how Guyana had implemented these resolutions. The defamation of religion one was extremely interesting because it chooses religious tolerance over freedom of speech by prohibiting all kind of xenophobic ideas. Since this idea intrigued me, I believe I am going to use this resolution in as a starting point for journal note. The prosecutorial case involved the issue of whether prosecutors can dismiss a case that a private citizen bought (in Guyana, private citizens can initiate criminal proceedings). We had to research quite a bit of precedents from other countries since Guyana did not have an authority on this. I was pretty proud of the brief we wrote on this!!

The best thing about being in Guyana was how nice the people were. Everybody went above and beyond to make us feel welcome. I felt people wanted us to see that they are good people and their country is not as scary as many of the US reports indicate. We worked with three other interns who are from Guyana and are going to law school in Trinidad. They took us on trips, invited us over for barbeques, cooked us authentic meals, and even bought us presents before we left. I also met some local guys who always included

us in their plans and made special efforts to get us to see as much of their city as we could. These people were not just "tour guides," but also our friends – people I will never forget.

The greatest experience I had this summer was spending the weekend at Iwokrama – the rainforest conversation facility. We took a nine-hour bus on an unpaved road to get to this remote island in the interior of Guyana. We went with some other American law students we met and some American medical students. The island was beautiful – almost completely untouched by humans. Being the tree hugger I am, I was in awe of the surroundings. We took a canopy hike atop the rainforest trees. We also took another hike up to the top of Turtle Mountain, which allowed us to see a breathtaking view of miles and miles of nothing but trees. On these trips, we saw red howler monkeys, black spider monkeys and caiman. I loved being in such an undeveloped, untouched area where it was just nature and I.

All in all, my trip to Guyana was a fantastic experience. I would definitely recommend this trip to anyone. It would not be something anyone would regret.

# GEORGETOWN, GUYANA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

### Patrick Jackson

This summer two other UGA students and I did an externship at the office of the Attorney General in Georgetown, Guyana. Our work consisted mainly of doing assorted research tasks for the staff attorneys who worked at the AG's chambers. Often, the AG's chambers had received a request for information from a foreign organization, and we were given the task of finding the requested information. We were also given the opportunity to prepare material that was incorporated into a submission to the court in a case that involved the powers of the Director of Public Prosecution. Our main research tools were the Constitution and Laws of Guyana, but frequently we searched case law of both Guyana and the greater Caribbean for persuasive precedent. In addition, we often had to go around Georgetown to different ministries to find the relevant information. We also got to visit the High Court and the Parliament Building.

We lived about two miles away from the Attorney General's Office, in a section of Georgetown called Kitty. We took taxis to work and to most of our destinations. Our apartment was right behind a burger restaurant, and the restaurant's owner was our landlord. We were only about a five to ten minute walk from the ocean, and often I would get up in the morning and run along the sea wall, which was built to prevent flooding of the city, which is several feet below sea level. We were in Guyana during the rainy season, so it was comparatively cool during our visit.

And we met a lot of really nice people there. Naresh Harnanan, who was the senior legal counsel at the AG's chambers, showed us around for the first couple of weeks and helped us get settled in. At work there were three girls from Guyana who attended the law school at the University of the West Indies and were doing a required governmental internship in order to practice law in Guyana. We got to know them pretty well, and they also showed us around Georgetown and the countryside. There were also two law students from Texas who were doing an internship for the Chief Justice of the High Court. We hung out with them a good deal.

So all in all it was a pretty good trip. Work was a lot of fun, and I think we learned a lot about how the Guyanese legal system worked. The government is still comparatively new—Guyana achieved independence from Great Britain in the mid-sixties—so the procedures and technologies in place there are still somewhat basic. We often had to figure out different and unusual (to us at least) ways to get information. And the country was really beautiful. Georgetown itself had some neighborhoods that one might characterize as a little run down, but there was a lot of really interesting colonial-era architecture there, like the President's House and St. George's Cathedral. Another thing that I noticed was how clear and blue the skies were, in the city as well as in the country.

In closing, I would recommend to any student that they consider going to Guyana for the summer. Because of the country's small size, I think it was possible to work on projects of greater importance than it would have been in a larger, more bureaucratically developed country. The Guyanese people are also incredibly friendly and exceptional hosts, so future students' experience outside of work while in Georgetown will most likely be excellent.

## **Host Organization Experiences**

Patricia Curzi Women's Project Coordinator International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA)

"What it meant to have one of our students working in ILGA"

ILGA, the International Lesbian and Gay Association, is a federation of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people (LGBT). It presently has about 600 member organizations throughout the world. Defending and advocating for the respect of LGBT rights at a worldwide level is a huge task – especially when this is coordinated by an office which is composed of only three staff members. That shows the importance of having volunteers and trainees assisting ILGA to achieve its goals. Having a trainee stay in the office for a few months is an outstanding experience from a professional and a human point of view. The student usually brings their own knowledge and expertise, allowing him or her to grow in a field where they may be working in the future. A personal relationship is being built with the trainee which makes the trainee and the members of the office grow. Each time we have had a trainee in the office we feel we gained an ally.

Michael Petty was an outstanding trainee. We really appreciated his availability and dedication. He agreed to stay at ILGA for three months instead of two, as initially agreed, which means that he had to sacrifice his personal vacations and go from university to ILGA and from ILGA back to university. He actually started his traineeship in a "virtual" way: we sent him various documents to proofread and comment on before settling in ILGA. We enjoyed his good sense of humor; that helped the team to overcome some stressful moments. And his willingness to put his hands on, no matter whether it was an exciting issue such as going to meet Members of Parliament at the European Union or rushing to the post office to mail hundreds of letters. Michael has become an ally for ILGA; but above all, we now have a new friend. And this is invaluable.

Shalini Mahay PSA Communication Executive Priti Suri & Associates, Legal Counselors

Priti Suri & Associates, Legal Counselors, New Delhi (India) has encouraged law students as interns from all over the globe. During 2004, Ms. Maria Eugenia Gimenez, Director of the Global Internship Program, University of Georgia, School of Law, Dean Rusk Center- International, Comparative and Graduate Legal Studies Athens, Georgia, had inquired from us whether PSA will accept students from the UGA School of Law. Of course, we were delighted and honored at this opportunity. The first UGA intern came to

our firm in June 2004 for two months and, subsequently in May 2007, two interns commenced their two months internship.

The UGA interns are exceptionally intelligent with quick grasping power, believe in reasoning and carried with them a zeal to learn not only about the Indian legal system but also the Indian culture. Despite the extremely different culture and environment, the young interns adapted immediately and settled in. Their integration at the firm, in the city and the maze of Indian law happened with remarkable ease and speed. They were part of a team that did intense and legitimate legal work that we are using. Their daily exchanges about the US legal market and opportunities proved to be an interesting discussion point with the associates at PSA.

We deeply appreciate this opportunity to participate in this Internship Program and would welcome more interns from the UGA in the coming years.

## Mohammad Tbaishat Enforcement & Legal Affairs Department Jordan Securities Commission

Our experience with Patrick's internship could not be limited in few words but briefly, Patrick showed a great deal of discipline, punctuality, esteem & respect during his training at Jordan Securities Commission. Patrick did not only benefit himself from this internship, but he also added great value to our entity as he has conducted a novel comparative study about "the insider trading". It has been a pleasure to host a student from your respectable university and we highly recommend the continuance of such internship in the future.

### GEORGIA LAW GLOBAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM Summer 2008-Expected Placements

## **AFRICA**

**Ghana:** Judiciary of Ghana, Accra

**ASIA** 

**Cambodia:** Heritage Watch, Phnom Penh

**China:** King and Wood, Beijing

King and Wood, Shanghai Fangda Partners, Shanghai Herbert Smith, LLP, Shanghai

India: South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre, New Delhi

Suri & Associates law firm, New Delhi

Majmudar & Co., International Lawyers, Mumbai

Japan: Osaka International Law Offices, Osaka

Mongolia: National University of Mongolia School of Law, Ulaanbaatar

**Thailand:** South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre, Bangkok

<u>Europe</u>

**Belgium:** Centre for Economic Law, Vrije Universiteit, Brussels

International Law Association, Belgian Branch, Brussels International Lesbian and Gay Association, Brussels

Brussels Centre of African Studies, Brussels Berwin Leigton Paisner LLP, Brussels NATO Parliamentary Assembly, Brussels

Int'l Society for Military Law and the Law of War, Brussels

**Bulgaria:** The Legislative Drafting Institute, Sofia

France: Law Office Neil Kearney, Paris

Sokol Law Office, Puyricard Aix-en-Provence

**Greece:** Harry Stamelos Law Firm, Athens

**Germany:** Haniel Corporation, Essen

Gorg Law Firm, Cologne

24IP Law Group Sonnenberg Fortmann, Munich Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw Gaedertz, Frankfurt

**Hungary:** European Center of Not-for-Profit-Law, Budapest

Hungarian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, Budapest Public Interest Law Initiative (Columbia University), Budapest

Italy: UNIDROIT, Rome

Romania: Cabinet de Avocat Florin Popovici, Sibiu

Slovakia: Human Rights League, Bratislava

**Spain:** Fernando Scornik Gerstein law firm, Madrid

United

**Kingdom:** Law Offices of Richard S. Goldstein, London

## **OCEANIA**

Papua New

Guinea: University of Papua New Guinea, Port Moresby

## **NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA**

**Argentina:** Clorox Company, International Legal Department, Buenos Aires

Fundacion Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Buenos Aires

Universidad del Salvador, Buenos Aires

**Bolivia:** Foundation Work Enterprise, Santa Cruz

**Brazil:** Pires & Pires law firm, Recife

Alburquerque-Pinto law firm, Recife

Emmanuel Placido Advogados Associados law firm, Recife

Superior Magistrate School of Pernambuco, Recife

Canada: Nova Scotia Public Prosecution Service, Nova Scotia

**Chile:** Ministry of Finance, Santiago

**Guyana:** Attorney General's Office, Georgetown

Public Prosecutor's Chambers, Georgetown

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