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## LLM Alumni Newsletter September 2002

University of Georgia School of Law LLM Alumni Association

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## NEWSLETTER 2002

# LL.M.- Alumni NEWSLETTER

Number 16 September 2002

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### The University of Georgia School of Law The 2002 LL.M. Alumni Reunion in New Delhi, India November 20 - 27, 2002

The long wait is nearly over. The sad events of 9/11 compelled us to defer, for the first time in the history of the Alumni Association, the 12<sup>th</sup> reunion meeting by one year. I think the wait will be worth it! In less than 2 months, many of the alumni will make their way to a city and a nation that is famous not only for its cultural diversity, but also for its hospitality. Experience that for yourself and, simultaneously, come and teach the Indians that there is an alternative way to spell DAWGS!

The long haul flights should not deter you. Some of you have traveled all the way to South America for the 1997 alumni meeting in Caracas. For those of you in Europe, Delhi is a mere 7 hours from Frankfurt. For the Asian alumni, it is even closer. I strongly urge you all to come and make the first Asian meeting a grand success. Those in the US may want to combine it with a vacation to a warmer climate when the mercury starts dipping. All you Indian alumni, please participate in full form. Details of the broad program were already communicated; the link to our website is: <http://www.it-careernet.com/ugallm/REUNION.htm>. Please fill out the registration form available from:

[http://www.it-careernet.com/ugallm/delhi\\_registration\\_form.htm](http://www.it-careernet.com/ugallm/delhi_registration_form.htm)

Mark your calendars, make your flight reservations. It is still possible to get very reasonable flight fares. For those of you wishing to combine a holiday as well, three different itineraries are proposed before/after the reunion on our website (and further possibilities are available upon request):

[http://www.it-careernet.com/ugallm/itinerary\\_1.htm](http://www.it-careernet.com/ugallm/itinerary_1.htm)  
[http://www.it-careernet.com/ugallm/itinerary\\_2.htm](http://www.it-careernet.com/ugallm/itinerary_2.htm)  
[http://www.it-careernet.com/ugallm/itinerary\\_3.htm](http://www.it-careernet.com/ugallm/itinerary_3.htm)

Pack your bags and get ready to savor different smells and sounds! **GO NEW DELHI!!**

(Priti)

### The Road Show

For those of you who wonder at the wisdom of having an alumni network, I have a story to narrate.

Cologne, Frankfurt, Stuttgart and Munich. Such warm welcome from people whom I did not know and who did not know me BUT for the UGA thread put us all together. And, "non-coincidentally", the only meeting, which was scheduled with a "non-alumni", had the presence of another attorney who, we learnt during the course of the conversation, knew the Arches as much as I did! Each day, each city and each meeting had convinced me what a great alumni association we have. With no intent to derogate the Ivy League associations, however, I do think that they probably lack the colossal human touch, which, clearly, is pervasive in the UGA alumni. My premier attempt to tap into the network has convinced me that most cities in the world will no longer feel alien as I am bound to find a DAWG fan!

Thank you, everyone, for making Germany such a memorable experience.

(Priti)

### Dinner in Brussels

The UGA LL.M. Alumni Association will soon have its 12<sup>th</sup> meeting in 13 years. However, we do not only meet for the annual meetings, but there are numerous "unofficial" gatherings throughout the world.

A dozen alumni met with Professor Gabriel Wilner on March 22, 2002, at the restaurant "Le Mess" near the University (VUB). It was a welcome break for Gabriel Wilner from intensive teaching duties and a "small reunion" (e.g. I saw Jos Leysen, as me class of 1986, again for the first time in almost 10 years – thanks, again, Jos for your hospitality!). We had a nice dinner, an intensive exchange of news from all over the world and left quite late - after exploring the Brussels nightlife - with the promise to repeat this soon.

Brussels has become some kind of second home to our association, of course based on Gabriel Wilner's course on EU law, but there are also many (not only Belgian) alumni working in this "international" city. Furthermore, Brussels is situated quite conveniently for many central European alumni.

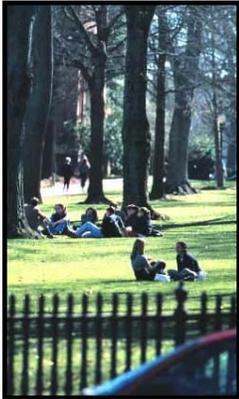
We will continue to meet even outside our annual meetings on an informal basis. It is always nice to meet old and gain new friends in our ever growing alumni community. Whenever you happen to be in Brussels (or New York, or Frankfurt or everywhere in the world) please contact the local alumni, and a

small reunion will be organized!

In February 2002, client commitments necessitated that I undertake a trip to Germany for one week. I decided to utilize the time and travel to several cities to explore business opportunities. When I mentioned this to Christof, he encouraged me to contact various alumni in the cities I wanted to visit. I am glad I took that advice as the response bowled me over completely while visiting Essen, Berlin, Hannover,

Bernd Thalmann (our association's president for a record-breaking period of seven years), Christian Droop (the first president of our association) and I did so on November 21, 2001. It was nice to meet for a "president's lunch" in Frankfurt and see Bernd's offices afterwards.

(Christof)



## Alumni News

**Giovanni Acerbi** (class of 1974) became the deputy for Lombardy of the Associazione Valore Uomo (email: [ilvalore@tin.it](mailto:ilvalore@tin.it)), a non-profit association of Italian lawyers doing pro bono work, particularly in the field of consumer protection. Please contact Giovanni for further details. His contact details are: Via Antonio Canova 7/A, I-20145 Milano, Italy, Phone: +39-02-34 73 25, or +39-0234 59 20 84, fax: +39-02-34 53 10 71, email: [studioacerbi@tiscalinet.it](mailto:studioacerbi@tiscalinet.it).

**Christian Droop** (class of 1989), the first president of our association, has moved back from New York to Frankfurt. He became a partner with Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP, in the Global Corporate Finance Group. Christian continues to focus his practice on international financings and mergers & acquisitions involving German companies. His business address is: Frankfurter

Welle, An der Welle 4, 60422 Frankfurt, phone: +49-69-7593-7158, fax: +49-69-7593-8303, email: [cdroop@milbank.com](mailto:cdroop@milbank.com).

**Bernd U. Graf** (class of 1988) informs us that he and his family (Gudrun, Fabian and Florian) moved from beautiful Geneva to musical Vienna. Bernd is a "freelance" attorney and continues to advise on international commercial matters, with an emphasis on EU inbound activities. His new business details are as follows: Leopold-Moses-Gasse 4/1/49, A-1020 Wien, phone: +43-1-2126416; fax: +43-1-9251643. Bernd explicitly encourages all alumni to stop by if you happen to be in Vienna.

**Cecil Kramer** (class of 1999) moved back to Germany and has joined the legal department of Hochtief Development in Essen, Germany. He can be reached by phone at: +49-(0)201-824-2279 or by email at [cecil.kramer@hochtief.de](mailto:cecil.kramer@hochtief.de).

**Christian Pitschas** (class of 1994) has returned to work with the Brussels office of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, again. His office address is: Place du Champ de Mars/Marsveldplein 5, 1050 Brussels, Belgium. Christian may be reached at +32-2-504 7000 (phone), and +32-2-504 7200 (fax). The email address ([Christian.Pitschas@freshfields.com](mailto:Christian.Pitschas@freshfields.com)) remains unchanged.

**Sophia von Rundstedt** has joined Metropolitan Consulting Group as of February 1, 2002. Her business address is: Viktoria-Luise-Platz 7, 10777 Berlin, phone: +49-30-23 60 88 0, Fax +49-30-23 60 88 11. She enjoys advising (no longer on legal matters) on strategic issues in the field of public transportation, biotech/pharma, as well as mid-size companies. Sophia's email address is [svonrundstedt@hotmail.com](mailto:svonrundstedt@hotmail.com).

**Peter Schäfer** (class of 1986) and his wife Christa proudly announce the birth of their third child; Franz (6 years) and Clara (2 years) got a sister born on March 2, 2002, named Maria.

**Patrick Specht** (class of 1997) has joined the Federal Ministry for Economy and Technology and had to move from Hamburg to Berlin. His email address remains [p.specht@web.de](mailto:p.specht@web.de). His new phone number is: +49 (0)30-49 85 38 83, fax: +49- 01212 / 510628334.

**Martine Speekenbrink-Pijnappels** (class of 1991) and her husband Jeroen Pijnappels proudly announce the birth of their second child, a boy called Michiel on July 21, 2002. During her maternity leave her email address is [martinespeekenbrink@hotmail.com](mailto:martinespeekenbrink@hotmail.com)

**Alexis Wochenmarkt** (class of 1997) has joined the Brussels office of Weil, Gotshal & Manges. Her business address is: Avenue Louise 81 box 9/10, B- 1050 Brussels, Belgium, phone +32-2-543 7473, fax: +32-2-5437489, email: [Alexis.Wochenmarkt@weil.com](mailto:Alexis.Wochenmarkt@weil.com).

