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With three wars currently underway – in Afghanistan, Iraq and against global terrorism – and with serious potential threats rising in North Korea and Iran, it is useful to look back over the record of U.S. foreign policy in search of wisdom to deal with the current global turmoil. Dean Rusk is a notable figure in this history, serving as secretary of state throughout both the Kennedy and the Johnson administrations. With the exception of Cordell Hull (secretary of state from 1933–1944), he held that office for a longer period than any other individual.

I had the opportunity to spend many hours with Rusk when he was on the law faculty at the University of Georgia, a position he held from the time he left the Department of State in 1969 until he passed away in 1994. A group of faculty met with him periodically in his office on north campus to conduct oral histories.

Dean Rusk, Congress and the Sheepdog Principle of American Foreign Policy

By Loch K. Johnson

With three wars currently underway – in Afghanistan, Iraq and against global terrorism – and with serious potential threats rising in North Korea and Iran, it is useful to look back over the record of U.S. foreign policy in search of wisdom to deal with the current global turmoil. Dean Rusk is a notable figure in this history, serving as secretary of state throughout both the Kennedy and the Johnson administrations. With the exception of Cordell Hull (secretary of state from 1933–1944), he held that office for a longer period than any other individual.

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Study Abroad

- Brussels Seminar expands to offer four ABA-accredited semester hours for three weeks of coursework on the law and institutions of the European Union.
- Law students and legal professionals traveled to Beijing and Shanghai this past summer for the inaugural Georgia Law Summer Program in China.
Throughout 2006, the Center has been busy maintaining its permanent offerings and developing new initiatives that serve the law school and university-wide communities and the State of Georgia. From our International Externship Program – which provides Georgia Law students with valuable work experience and exposure to the legal systems of foreign countries and international institutions – to the unique perspectives offered by our visiting lecturers, such as Daniel Fung – whose recent talk illustrated not only the external challenges posed by China’s rise, but also its internal vulnerabilities not readily apparent to the Western eye – the work of the Center seeks to illuminate issues of international importance in an interdisciplinary manner, as well as from a legal perspective. This is done in an effort to stay on the cutting edge of world affairs by developing programs and events that promote an understanding of international law and policy in a current and relevant way.

Our spring 2006 conference examining the dispute settlement system of the World Trade Organization – held during the 10th anniversary of that system’s creation and designated as an American Society of International Law Centennial Regional Meeting – brought together professors, diplomats, senior government officials from the U.S. and abroad, and expert trade practitioners who offered fascinating and diverse assessments of the system’s past performance and future role in the international trade regime. In the upcoming months, as part of a U.S. Congressional/EU Parliamentary roundtable conference on cooperation in transatlantic security, we hope to hear unique perspectives on important and timely security issues as government representatives from Brussels and Washington come to discuss the challenges of transatlantic cooperation against the backdrop of a recently strained relationship.

We also look forward to the presence of a very distinguished guest speaker this spring, who will be visiting us as part of the 30th anniversary commemoration of the Dean Rusk Center. Lee H. Hamilton, former congressman and vice-chairman of the 9/11 Commission, most recently served as co-chair of the Iraq Study Group and made headlines for his pragmatic leadership, transcending partisan differences in seeking solutions. Much as Dean Rusk did when he served as Secretary of State from 1961–1969, Hamilton has worked tirelessly in the areas of national security and foreign affairs in a consistently statesmanlike manner. It is with great pleasure that we welcome Hamilton as one of the keynote speakers to mark this important anniversary year.

We hope that you will continue to take an interest in the work of the Dean Rusk Center, and we invite you to join us in our mission of promoting a better understanding of the critical issues involved in international law and policy.

“...the Center seeks to illuminate issues of international importance in an interdisciplinary manner, as well as from a legal perspective.”
Announcements

New Appointments

We are pleased to announce the addition of two new staff members to the Rusk Center team: April Macáková, office manager, and Rebecca Fameree, administrative associate. Macáková holds an A.B. degree in political science from UGA, served as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Slovak Republic and has worked as a program manager, trainer and teacher in several non-profits and educational institutions in New York City and New Orleans. Most recently, she served four years as the special assistant to the president and founder of Teach For America. In her current position she provides active support for Rusk Center projects, including assisting with conferences, training programs and publications, and also manages the office.

Fameree comes to the Center with a strong administrative background, primarily in the insurance and financial services industries. In her role, she not only works closely with Professor Wilner to coordinate the LL.M. program, but also supports the Brussels Seminar and Georgia Law Summer Program in Brussels and other Rusk Center initiatives. Most recently from Green Bay, WI, Fameree holds an associate degree in business administration and marketing from Midstate Technical College.

New LL.M. Class is Welcomed to Georgia Law

This year the LL.M. class grew to 15 students. In recent years there had been a decline in the size of LL.M. classes, in part due to increased restrictions on student visas arising after 9/11. A total of 11 countries are represented by this year’s group: Cameroon, Korea, Nigeria, Ghana, India, Ethiopia, China, Zimbabwe, United States, Jamaica and Guyana. Certain revisions to the LL.M. program will take effect in the fall of 2007.

For more information on the Graduate Legal Studies Program (LL.M.) at Georgia Law, please visit: www.uga.edu/ruskcenter/llm.html.

Rusk Center Office Manager and Editorial Specialist Retires

This past summer, after 27 years of service at UGA, Nelda Parker retired from her position at the Rusk Center. As office manager, Parker provided active support for Rusk Center projects and also became intimately involved in the editing and publishing of the Center’s Occasional Papers Series. Parker was with the Center nearly since its inception 30 years ago, and had been instrumental in its growth over the years. She will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of working with her.

Brazilians Arrive for Judicial Training Program

This past November, a group of 26 judges, clerks and state attorneys from Pernambuco, Brazil, including the current Chief Justice of that state, took part in a two-week long judicial training program coordinated by the Rusk Center and the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education. The group received training in such topics as court administration, judicial budgeting, caseload management, alternative dispute resolution, court technology, and judicial ethics and professionalism. They also participated in sessions with the Georgia Supreme Court, Georgia Court of Appeals and other specialized courts, and attended a special reception with Presiding Justice Carol Hunstein of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

For more information on the International Judicial Training Program, please visit: www.uga.edu/ruskcenter/ijtp.html.

Rusk Center to Mark 30th Anniversary with Guest Speaker from Washington

Former Congressman and Vice-chairman of the 9/11 Commission, Lee H. Hamilton most recently served as co-chair, along with former Secretary of State James Baker, of the Iraq Study Group. To commemorate the establishment of the Rusk Center in 1977, Hamilton will visit UGA this coming spring to speak on issues related to his critically important work in Washington. Since retiring from Congress in 1999, where he served as chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, he has been the president and director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

For more information on this upcoming lecture, please visit: www.uga.edu/ruskcenter/announcements.html.
Wreathed in cigarette smoke, he would regale us with stories of JFK and LBJ, whose inscribed photographs adorned the walls of his office. He would also come to my classes from time to time, in a wheelchair near the end of his career. The students would sit in rapt silence, awed by Rusk’s recollections of the Cuban missile crisis. He made himself available as well for less formal talks with anyone who came by, including the lowliest first-year student. Further, his office played host to a parade of visiting scholars and reporters who came to interview him on everything from ongoing arms control negotiations to the latest world crisis.

Once, on the evening of October 5, 1979, Rusk met with a packed room of foreign policy scholars who had convened at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education. Mainly professors of international relations from around the south, they were in Athens for a regional meeting of the International Studies Association. His six-foot-one frame was stooped by then, but Rusk’s mind was quick and supple as he discussed the ins-and-outs of foreign affairs. He offered this central thesis: the Constitution required the executive and legislative branches of government to work together in the shaping of U.S. foreign policy.

It was vital, in his view, for the executive branch to engage in constant dialogue with Congress about the nation’s best interests abroad. As he put it, “We must have regular ‘pointless’ discussions between legislators and the executive.” By “pointless,” he meant that the conversations ought to go on all the time, even if there were no pressing agenda at the moment. The idea was for officials in both branches to get to know one another, to develop rapport and trust that would reach across party lines, and that would establish a reservoir of good will for more trying times.

He had followed this rule as secretary of state. Under his leadership, every Wednesday at nine o’clock in the morning on Capitol Hill, the State Department would present a briefing on world events to any member of the House of Representatives who wished to attend. The Senate rejected the offer for a comparable briefing, since its more senior members decided that they did not want the junior “backbenchers” privy to high-level information. Rusk joked that it was just as well, because “there was only a modest number of senators left, anyway. All the rest were out running for the presidency.”

Even the House sessions were not as well attended as Rusk would have liked – normally from 60-to-70 lawmakers. He observed that “the State Department was more prepared to give information to the Congress than members were prepared to receive it.” One exception: if television cameras were expected at a meeting, “then everyone came – half with pancake on, ready for the show.”

Despite his disappointment over many lawmakers’ failure to display much of an interest in foreign affairs, Rusk persevered, buoyed by the fact that some members of Congress took it seriously and by his persistent belief that cooperation between the two branches was an indispensable ingredient for foreign policy success. Achieving cooperation, though, became increasingly difficult during Rusk’s years in Washington. He recalled that as a young assistant secretary of state in the 1950s, the executive branch had only to confer with “five whales” on Capitol Hill: in the House, Speaker Sam Rayburn (D-Texas), and in the Senate: the majority leader, Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Texas); the minority leader, Everett Dirksen (R-Illinois); the leader of the liberal faction, Hubert Humphrey (D-Minnesota); and the chamber’s most highly regarded national security expert, Georgia’s own Richard B. Russell (D). By the time Rusk became secretary of state in 1961, however, the Congress had transformed into “535 minnows swimming around in a bucket.”

Reforms in Congress had shifted power dramatically away from the leadership and into the hands of subcommittee chairs and even individual lawmakers.

“...if presidents and secretaries of state wanted to succeed, they had to behave like sheepdogs, spending much of their time rounding up lawmakers in support of foreign policy initiatives.”
Visiting Professors

Every year the Dean Rusk Center sponsors and supports visiting professors who are experts in various aspects of international and transnational law. These scholars and practitioners generally teach mini-courses that are included in the law school curriculum.

John R. Crook, Adjunct Faculty of Law, George Washington University Law School (D.C.), will be on campus during the 2007 spring semester to teach the mini-course: “International Organizations,” which will examine the role of law in the creation and operation of international organizations, focusing on these organizations’ multiple roles in creating and applying international law. Crook currently serves as commissioner of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Claims Commission. Previously, he worked as counselor for legal affairs for the U.S. Mission in Geneva. He has held several U.S. State Department positions during his career, including assistant legal adviser for United Nations affairs, head of the treaty office and multiple posts in the Office of the Legal Adviser. He has also taught as an adjunct professor at George Washington University Law School. Since 1995, Crook has served on the board of editors for the American Journal of International Law. His scholarship includes The Iran–United States Claims Tribunal and the Process of International Claims Resolution that he co-edited with David Caron. He graduated summa cum laude from Wabash College in 1969 and received his J.D. from Yale Law School in 1972.

Kim Van der Borght, Faculty of Law, University of Hull (England), is a returning fellow of the Dean Rusk Center and was on campus to teach International Trade this past fall semester. He also gave a lecture, co-sponsored by the Rusk Center and the Willson Center for Humanities and the Arts, “Rule of Law and Education in Palestine,” where he presented research accumulated over several visits to the region. Professor Van der Borght is an expert in international trade law. His research and teaching interests include the law and policy of international and regional organizations dealing with international trade (particularly the World Trade Organization), the relationship between international trade and development, and dispute settlement in public international law. Professor Van der Borght earned his doctorate in 2004 with an analysis of the legal nature of the WTO dispute settlement system.

Whatever the virtues of this “democratization” of the Congress, it made communications between the branches an imposing challenge. Rusk vowed to try his best, nonetheless, not only by means of the weekly House briefings, but through countless telephone conversations with lawmakers and personal visits to their offices, on top of the usual committee hearings. He treated lawmakers with respect and, for the most part, they reciprocated, even if more and more of them had begun to oppose the nation’s war in Vietnam.

Rusk’s effort to cooperate with Congress found its most severe test in his relationship with J. William Fulbright (D-Arkansas), the chairman of the august Senate Foreign Relations Committee and a strident critic of the war in Vietnam. Eventually the once-warm ties between the two men, both Democrats, Southerners, and former Rhodes Scholars, crumbled under the weight of a mutual enmity spawned by the war.

Rusk recalled that his quest for comity between the branches broke down, too, in October of 1962. Just two hours before he was scheduled to speak to the American people on television about the presence of Soviet missiles in Cuba, President John F. Kennedy summoned thirty members of Congress to the White House. “Are you going to support your government in this time of crisis?” the President said to the lawmakers. Rusk conceded that this was inadequate consultation; noting, in retrospect, that the internal deliberations of the White House on how to deal with the missile confrontation could have benefited from the participation of key members of Congress.

For the most part, though, Rusk followed what might be called “the sheepdog principle” of American foreign policy. He believed that if presidents and secretaries of state wanted to succeed, they had to behave like sheepdogs, spending much of their time rounding up lawmakers in support of foreign policy initiatives. This meant talking, listening, and trying to reach an accommodation with the other elected representatives of the American people on Capitol Hill. At times Congress could be a source of great frustration for Rusk. “It was difficult to negotiate with Hanoi when its leaders were always quoting back your own words, even if more and more of them had begun to oppose the nation’s war in Vietnam,” he lamented.

As he concluded his remarks to the foreign policy scholars at the Georgia Center, Rusk drew upon a comment which he attributed to the late Chief Justice Earl Warren. Absent a willingness of the Congress and the executive to work in partnership — to share information and ideas, and to debate together the great issues of world affairs — the government of the United States “would freeze up, like an engine without oil.” The end result of a stubborn dismissal of America’s constitutional prescription for power-sharing would be impasse.

Perhaps there is no more important insight into the making of American foreign policy. Without question, this cooperative approach to governing is sorely needed as the United States seeks a responsible conclusion to the war in Iraq.

Loch K. Johnson is Regents and Meigs Professor in the School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA) at the University of Georgia, editor of the international journal Intelligence and National Security, and author most recently of the book Seven Sins of American Foreign Policy (Longman, 2007).
The Dean Rusk Center develops projects that serve to expand the international dimensions of teaching, scholarship and outreach at the School of Law. These projects originate primarily through staff initiatives, but also from external requests and personal initiatives of Georgia Law faculty and students. The Center works with interested national and international agencies and institutions on projects of mutual interest, providing support through project identification, creation and development, background research, funding and administration.

**Chief Counsel to the Supreme Arbitrazh (Commercial) Court of the Russian Federation Conducts Research with Georgia Law Associate Professor Randy Beck**

Anna Nagaeva, a participant in the U.S.-Russia Experts Forum and chief counsel to the Supreme Arbitrazh Court of Russia, arrived in Athens to team up with former U.S. Supreme Court Clerk and Associate Professor of Law Randy Beck for a two-month comparative law research project. Working out of the Rusk Center, Nagaeva and Beck examined the case selection process for three courts – Russia’s Supreme Arbitrazh Court, the U.S. Supreme Court and the Supreme Court of Georgia.

The U.S.-Russia Experts Forum is a joint program of the U.S. Department of State and the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) which seeks to foster dialogue and partnership among U.S. and Russian experts on public policy issues and processes. As participants of the Forum, Beck and Nagaeva presented their initial findings in Washington, D.C., as well as the final results of their research as a policy brief in Moscow this past December.

For more information on the U.S.-Russia Experts Forum, please visit: www.irex.org.

**Rusk Center Director Joins State Government Delegation to China**

As a continuation of the Center’s efforts to provide a resource to the state of Georgia for promoting the state’s effective involvement in international trade and investment, Rusk Center Director Don Johnson joined Commissioner Craig Lesser of the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD), and other Georgia political and business leaders, on a weeklong mission to China in August 2006. The mission’s goals were threefold: establish an economic development and trade office in Beijing to assist and represent Georgia businesses in China; urge government officials to open a Chinese consulate in Atlanta; and add support for Delta Air Lines’ bid to provide a direct flight from Atlanta to Beijing.

“The China office is a critically important move for Georgia,” said Johnson. “China has the fastest growing economy in the world and is likely to have a significant fiscal impact on many industrial sectors for most of this century. It is imperative that we be strategically engaged in China to enhance job development in Georgia.” The office will be designed to assist small- and medium-sized Georgia businesses who want to reach the Chinese market, but may otherwise not have the necessary resources or international staff to do so.

Joining Johnson and Lesser on the week-long mission, were Savannah Economic Development Commissioner Craig Lesser, Rusk Center Director Don Johnson and Delta Air Lines Vice President of Public Affairs Doug Blissit during a visit to the Beijing municipal government headquarters.
Study Abroad and International Externships

Two of the most important offerings of the Rusk Center are our study abroad and international externship programs which allow students the opportunity to follow legal coursework and apply legal skills in diverse, international settings. The recent growth of this aspect of the Rusk Center’s work has provided a substantial boost to Georgia Law’s international profile.

ABA Reports on Georgia Law Summer Program in China

A group of 19 law students and legal professionals traveled to Beijing and Shanghai this past summer for the inaugural Georgia Law Summer Program in China. The program participants represented Georgia Law and six other law schools from across the nation, one law school in Zurich, Switzerland, and three law offices in Atlanta. Joining the group was the study abroad inspector for the American Bar Association, whose report to the ABA on the program was overwhelmingly positive and resulted in formal approval of the program this past November. This year the Center hopes to have up to 30 participants traveling to China for the program.

Participating law students earned three ABA-accredited semester hours for following coursework at two of China’s leading educational institutions, Tsinghua University in Beijing and Fudan University in Shanghai. Attorneys who joined the group for one week of the program received 12 hours of CLE credit. The program also included field trips to legal institutions, including several law firms, an arbitration center and a court of law where students observed a trial. Several guided tours to famous sites, such as the Great Wall, the Forbidden City and the Temple of Heaven, added historical and cultural elements to this diverse and integrated study abroad experience.

Among the many highlights of the trip was a half-day conference hosted by the Chinese Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) in Beijing. During the conference, which was specifically organized for the Georgia Law program, students engaged in dialogue with MOFCOM representatives and submitted questions concerning China’s compliance with its obligations under the WTO. The seminar culminated with a Chinese-style banquet dinner, also organized by MOFCOM.

Several Georgia Law students remained in China after the three week course of study to take advantage of Rusk Center externship offerings. These students worked for approximately six weeks in legal externships at top-ranked law firms in Beijing and Shanghai. Among the participating law firms were King and Wood, the largest law firm in China; Herbert Smith, a leading international British firm; Zhong Xin, a top rated Shanghainese firm; and Fangda Partners, a leading PRC commercial law firm.

For more information on the 2007 Georgia Law Summer Program in China, please visit: www.uga.edu/ruskcenter/china.
**Brussels Seminar Expands to Offer ABA-approved Program**

Entering into its 35th consecutive year of operation, the *Brussels Seminar on the Law and Institutions of the European Union* will, for the first time, offer students a credit-bearing, ABA-approved option through the newly established *Georgia Law Summer Program in Brussels*. This three-week, four-credit program will draw on the enormous and well-established resources of the *Brussels Seminar*, which has been directed by Professor & Associate Dean Gabriel M. Wilner since 1973. The *Georgia Law Summer Program in Brussels* recently received provisional ABA approval and is currently accepting applications for the 2007 summer session.

The principal aims of the annual *Brussels Seminar* and *Georgia Law Summer Program in Brussels* are to provide interested law students with intensive exposure to the law and institutions of the European Community (EC) within the European Union (EU). The location for both programs, the Institut d’Etudes Européennes of the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), provides a top-rate setting for the numerous lectures and discussions covering such topics as the structure and institutions of the EU, the legal nature of the EU, the external relations of the EC, economic relations between the EU and the United States, and human rights in Europe. Participants are exposed to a wide range of perspectives from academics, attorneys, and government experts from both Europe and the United States.

The programs also include visits to the Court of Justice of the European Communities in Luxembourg, briefings by officials of the U.S. Mission to the European Union in Brussels and the always popular Annual Dinner, which affords participants the opportunity to meet and socialize with EU officials, professors, and members of the practicing bar.

For more information on the 2007 *Georgia Law Summer Program in Brussels*, please visit: [www.uga.edu/ruzkcenter/brussels.html](http://www.uga.edu/ruzkcenter/brussels.html).

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**International Externship Program Continues to Expand**

The Rusk Center’s *International Externship Program* allows Georgia Law students the opportunity to gain hands-on legal experience in an international setting. Through outreach to foreign law firms, governments, non-profit agencies and other legal institutions, this initiative provides students with four to eight weeks of work experience in legal learning environments in a variety of countries. Established in 2001 by Rusk Center Associate Director María E. Giménez, the program supported two students in its initial year. By last summer, the program had expanded to send 19 students to 10 different countries.

This summer, the Center anticipates supporting up to 30 students in 16 different countries with grants from Georgia Law of up to $1,500 per student to cover travel costs, room and board, as well as other expenses associated with living abroad. Among the host institutions for this past summer were: the European Centre for Economic Law in Belgium, King & Wood PRC Lawyers in China, the Haniel Corporation in Germany, the Supreme Court of Justice in Ghana, the Attorney General’s Office in Guyana, the South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre in India, and the Veirano and Pires law firms in Brazil. Of special note is the generous support of Kilpatrick Stockton LLP, which has funded three of the positions in Guyana every summer since 2003 with grants of $3,000 each.

For more information on the *International Externship Program*, please visit: [www.uga.edu/ruzkcenter/externships.html](http://www.uga.edu/ruzkcenter/externships.html).
On a Monday afternoon this past November, a diverse, interdisciplinary group of students, faculty and other guests gathered on the fourth floor of Rusk Hall for the inaugural Willson Center – Dean Rusk Center Annual Lecture. This year’s lecture, “The Rise of China: Political and Economic Implications,” was delivered to the standing room only audience by the honorable Daniel R. Fung, former Solicitor-General of Hong Kong.

Fung is the first person of Chinese extraction to have served as solicitor-general, as well as the youngest member ever of the Hong Kong Bar to have been appointed Queen’s Counsel. He served on the Basic Law Consultative Committee, leading to the promulgation of Hong Kong’s constitution, and has been a visiting professor at both Harvard and Yale law schools. Drawing on past experience and insights gained from one of his present posts as national delegate to the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference, the principal advisory body to the People’s Republic of China (PRC), Fung provided an astute and perceptive analysis of the political and economic challenges surrounding the new role of China.

Fung’s lecture was focused on deciphering the multitude of current projections related to the growth of China in order to extract the most illuminating and least speculative of forecasts. After discussing many of the “straight-line” projections – which have China on a path towards overtaking the German economy in 4 years, the Japanese economy in 15 years and the U.S. economy by 2040 – what Fung submitted as most sobering were adverse projections related to demographics, energy resources, environmental issues and unemployment. It is these latter issues which are of growing concern to the PRC and, as the lecture went on to emphasize, should be for the rest of the world as well.

China’s population growth, estimated to peak at 1.5 billion in 2030 and then rapidly decline, is leading towards a demographic inverse-pyramid, Fung explained, and went on to posit that, theoretically, this could lead to one working adult-child “supporting two parents who may be on the verge of retirement, supporting four grandparents who would be completely retired.” This demographic shift, the first of its kind in human history, combined with the PRC’s underdeveloped pension and health-care systems, will necessarily burden China’s traditional economic reserves, ultimately affecting the country’s investment capabilities in the United States and elsewhere throughout the world.

Oil shortages and a lack of other natural resources needed to sustain China’s unparalleled growth will also play a large part in shaping the PRC’s future, according to Fung. China currently relies heavily on its vast coal reserves, which account for 70 percent of the country’s total energy consumption. A combination of the polluting effects and a concern over severe shortages of this energy supply, as well as the lack of a proper transportation logistics system for energy delivery, have Fung and other experts worried that reliance on the sedimentary fossil fuel to sustain the growth and energy needs of China is untenable at best. Additionally, there are concerns over desertification in the north and decreasing water tables in Beijing and Shanghai, which place further strain on China’s infrastructure development capabilities.

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Lecture on China Draws Wide Audience to the Center

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Selected events are published by the Rusk Center in the Occasional Papers Series or in the Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law. To order Occasional Papers, please contact April Macáková at macakova@uga.edu or (706) 542-7875. To access select Occasional Papers online, please visit: www.uga.edu/ruskcenter/publications.html.
To illustrate the importance and magnitude of his final point regarding precarious unemployment levels, Fung submitted the following: many American officials living and working in China, and familiar with the Chinese government’s task of needing to create 20 million new jobs every year just to maintain the current rate of unemployment, readily concede that President Hu Jintao presently has a much tougher job than that of the American president. The rapid increase in domestic migration from rural areas to large urban cities has put an enormous strain on government offices responsible for job growth and social welfare. The PRC’s lack of a social “safety net,” explained Fung, could prove to have disastrous effects when coupled with potential stumbling blocks in China’s continued path towards growth in the coming decades.

In closing, Fung stressed that in this age of increasing globalization and economic interdependence it is important to maintain an interest in China in order to continue “to learn how the other half lives,” and that whatever one ultimately thinks of the current rise of China, what happens there has consequences for us all. To illustrate this point, Fung ended with a quote from Minxin Pei of the Carnegie Institute:

“If the Chinese experiment in modernization were to succeed, it would change the face of the Earth. If the Chinese experiment in modernization were to fail, it would unleash the greatest humanitarian disaster the world has ever known. So either way, China matters.”

Fung’s lecture will be published as part of the Rusk Center’s Occasional Papers Series and will also be available online, as both PDF and streaming-video files, at: www.uga.edu/ruskcenter/publications.html.

Experts Converge on Center for 2006 International Trade Conference; Spring 2007 Conference to Focus on Transatlantic Security Issues

Building on the success of past events, including the 2006 International Trade Under the Rule of Law conference and the recent Dean Rusk Center – Willson Center Annual Lecture, planning is underway for a new conference in the spring of 2007. The conference will follow a roundtable format, drawing on high-level government officials from the United States and the European Union for a Congressional/Parliamentary dialogue on cooperation in transatlantic security. Included among a short list of topics to be covered during the conference are issues related to: data protection, extraordinary rendition, and the limits of international cooperation in dealing with terrorism.

For more information on this and other upcoming events at the Center, please visit: www.uga.edu/ruskcenter/announcements.html.

2006 International Trade Under the Rule of Law moderator Gabriel M. Wilner, Associate Dean and Charles H. Kirbo Professor of International Law (Executive Director, Dean Rusk Center) and panelists Nikolaos Zaimis, Counselor and Head of Trade Section for the Delegation of the European Commission, and William J. Davey, Edwin M. Adams Professor of Law, University of Illinois College of Law (Former Director of the Legal Affairs Division of the WTO), discussing the extent to which the WTO Dispute Settlement System has a role in global governance.
This past summer, Georgia Law’s J.T. Kovach took part in two of the Rusk Center’s international offerings as a participant in both the Georgia Law Summer Program in China and the International Externship Program. Although studying and working abroad may seem daunting for a student just completing his first year of law school and who has never traveled outside the country, Kovach took the challenge in stride and worked hard to make the most of the nearly two and a half months he spent in Beijing and Shanghai.

“Considering that this trip to China was my first time ever traveling abroad, I’m really glad that I chose to participate in these two programs,” Kovach said. “The classes we took at the Chinese universities were really great. I was impressed that terminology and concepts I learned in the commercial law classes ended up being useful for the work at my externship.”

“And the cultural experiences in Beijing and Shanghai were amazing,” he added. “Our visit to the Great Wall was truly an unforgettable part of the trip.”

In crafting the China program, one of the goals was to allow students enough time, after the completion of coursework, to partake in externships in leading law firms in China. After the three-week China program, Kovach spent an additional six weeks at the British law firm Herbert Smith LLP in Shanghai. During his time there he worked with three of the office’s partners, as well as with several senior associates, on a range of transactional issues.

“I was really drawn to the possibility of getting work experience in a major law firm in China,” he said. “I was hoping to put some of the skills gained from my first year law studies and undergraduate business major to use in a firm doing transactional work. To be able to do that in a top British law firm in Shanghai just made for an even more interesting experience than I could have hoped.”

Kovach said that he felt the work was probably comparable to what someone would be assigned in a more traditional summer associate position in the United States. “I got to work on matters related to IPOs, mergers and acquisitions, and SEC filings,” he explained. “I had a couple late nights in the office. The work was challenging and the office environment was very professional.”

Living and working in Shanghai also provided Kovach with the cultural experience of a lifetime. Sharing a flat with fellow program participant Dan Dunavant in Jing An, one of the central business districts in Shanghai, Kovach got a good feel for the “expat” lifestyle.

“In Beijing we were more exposed to the traditional and historical China, with visits to Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and the Temple of Heaven,” Kovach said. “But in Shanghai it’s like being in New York City. It’s a very international city, and the experience of living and working there – commuting to the office or going out at night – allows you to meet so many different kinds of people from all over the world.”

Kovach also noticed that during interviews this fall in the U.S., his experiences in China gave him plenty to talk about. “China is one of the first things to come up during every interview I’ve had since the summer, especially if the firm I’m talking with does business in Asia,” Kovach explained. “It really helps because I feel like I’m never at a loss for words. It’s a great choice for a rising 2L who wants to get experience abroad during the summer. I would highly recommend both programs.”