Lisa Blomgren Amsler to Deliver Annual Schwartz Lecture in Dispute Resolution on April 8

Can the “Next Gen” save American democracy? This is the question Indiana University’s Lisa Blomgren Amsler takes on as she delivers the annual Schwartz Lecture on Dispute Resolution on April 8, 2015 at 12:10 p.m. in the Moritz College of Law’s Saxbe Auditorium. Professor Blomgren Amsler’s talk is titled, “The Next Generation’s Voice: Conflict and Democracy.”

Blomgren Amsler examines the cultural criticisms of our society as one in which people have grown increasing insular and distant from one another and argues that these critiques leave out an important element: the Next Generation. While the media tries to set up a “Clash of Titans” between Baby Boomers and Millennials, few have looked at the factors and forces that shape how the younger generation views, relates to, and participates in democracy. The seeds of institutional change, if they exist, are within this Next Generation. Her lecture will look at ways in which trends like civil disobedience as a form of public engagement and online public engagement interact with more traditional forms of public expression.

She is the recipient of many awards for her service in the field of public administration and conflict resolution, and last year received the American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution’s Award for Outstanding Scholarly Work. Her most recent book is Dispute Systems Design: Preventing, Managing, and Resolving Conflict, which she co-authored with Janet K. Martinez and Stephanie Smith.

The Schwartz Lecture on Dispute Resolution was established in 1992 as a result of the generosity of the late Stanley Schwartz Jr. (a 1947 Moritz College of Law graduate) and the Schwartz family. Each lecture is published in the interdisciplinary Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution, in keeping with Mr. Schwartz’s interest in the promotion of scholarly publication in the area of dispute resolution. The event is free and open to the public and all are encouraged to attend the lunch and lecture.

More information about the Schwartz Lecture is available on the Program on Dispute Resolution website.

The Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution Hosts Horizons Symposium

The end of January saw a gathering of dispute resolution luminaries in Columbus, as the Moritz College of Law’s Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution (JDR) hosted “Horizons: Conversations about Future Directions in Dispute Resolution.” The symposium, held in honor of the 30th anniversary of JDR, began with an evening gathering of participants to foster informal discussion of the current state of the field of dispute resolution.

The action continued on Friday, January 30, 2015 as attendees gathered at The Ohio State University’s Barrister Club in a series of panels organized around 1) theory and conceptual challenges, 2) policy and program challenges, and 3) challenges of practice, and 4) setting an agenda for the field in the coming decade. Jay Folberg, chair of the JAMS Foundation, ended the event with an ad hoc summary of the
day’s proceedings. A full list of topics and speakers can be found on the JDR website. Professor Joseph (“Josh”) Stulberg played a key role in organizing and serving as master of ceremonies for the event.

**Congratulations to the Winners of the ABA Representation in Mediation Competition**

Second year law students Chelsea Glassmann and Seth Enlow and third year law students Baylee Butler and Kara Ford won the 2014 Moritz College of Law ABA Representation in Mediation Competition held the week of January 25, 2015. The competition allows students to test their negotiation and client advocacy skills as part of a mediated dispute. Competing as lawyer and client pairs, teams work with a non-competing, neutral third party mediator and are scored on skills like problem solving, option generation, and use of the mediation process.

Chelsea, Baylee, and Kara are all graduates of the Law School’s Mediation Clinic, and Baylee is a veteran mediation competitor, having participated last year in the Great Lakes Mediation Tournament. The four students will compete in the regional competition, which will be hosted at the Moritz College of Law on March 7-8, 2015. Lawyers and mediators Dottie Painter and Marya Kolman will once again coach the team, which placed second nationally in the 2014 ABA Representation in Mediation Competition.

**ABA Negotiation Team Competes in Chicago Regionals**

Third year students Josh Fravel and Ed Hebb and second year law students Chris Sponseller and Matt Raby advanced from their victory in the in-school ABA Negotiation Competition to regionals in Chicago on November 8-9, 2015. While they did not emerge from the regional competition with a win, they did have the opportunity to spread Buckeye Pride in the Windy City.
When We Listen, People Talk, and Sometimes We Give Talks Too

Professor Ellen Deason served as a guest expert on the WOSU radio show All Sides with Ann Fisher on January 14, 2015, speaking about genetically modified crops. Most recently, Professor Deason flew to New York on February 2-4, 2015 where she served as an observer for negotiations around changes to the UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), the primary set of rules for enforcing international trade agreements. Professor Deason’s thoughts about the UNCITRAL negotiation process can be found on the Indisputably Blog. She also journeyed to Southwestern Law School in November 2014 for the AALS Alternative Dispute Resolution Section’s 8th Annual Works-in-Progress Conference where she spoke on “Neutrality Debates: Can Mediators Learn Anything from Genetic Counselors?”

Speaking of the AALS, Professor Ruth Colker spoke at the AALS 2015 Annual Meeting in Washington DC. Her first panel for the Sections on Disability Law and Employment Discrimination Law looked at “Employment Discrimination and the American with Disabilities Act at 25 Years.” Her second panel discussed Alternative Dispute Resolution in Special Education and was co-sponsored by the AALS Section on Alternative Dispute Resolution and the Section on Law and Mental Disability. It has been a busy year for Professor Colker, who also recently served on a “best practices” panel related to individuals with disabilities who take the LSAT. The panel’s January 26, 2015 report can be found on the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing website.

In addition to his work helping organize the JDR Symposium, Professor Josh Stulberg attended the Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution symposium on November 3, 2014. The event was called “Is Mediation a Sleeping Beauty?” and Professor Stulberg delivered a talk on “Heading in an Ugly Direction: Mediator Misunderstanding of Bargaining Basics.” Cardozo Professor Lela Love provided a recap of the symposium for the Indisputably Blog.

Congratulations to ’04 Moritz graduate and University of Nebraska Law Professor Kristen Blankley on her recent marriage. Finally, our heartfelt best wishes go to Professor Amy Cohen, who welcomed her second child, son Kiva, into the world in November 2014.