

Empirical Research on the Legal Profession: Insights from Theory and Practice

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

A symposium sponsored by
The Center for the Study of the Legal Profession
and the Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics

Georgetown University Law Center
600 New Jersey Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Gewirz Student Center, 12th Floor

This symposium will bring together scholars, practicing lawyers, print and electronic journalists, consultants and communications experts, from the US and overseas, to discuss how empirical research on lawyers and law practice can inform our understanding of issues facing the profession. Papers will focus on issues of diversity, lawyer mobility, globalization and its relationship to law firms, how lawyers can use empirical research on the profession, and the coordination of legal and media strategies in representing clients. A lunch panel discussion will focus on the impact of the legal press on the profession. The symposium will be structured to allow for lively discussions among scholars, practitioners and others in order to foster a dialogue that generates new knowledge and awareness on all sides.

The symposium will address several leading challenges for the legal profession. How are the careers of minority lawyers distinctive? What can law firms, clients and legal educators do to support increased diversity in the profession? What do patterns of lateral mobility of lawyers in large law firms tell us about the structure, management and culture of the firms? How have law firms successfully addressed the challenges posed by globalization? Are law firms constrained by regulation in their global growth? What is the relationship among lawyers, the media and communications specialists in representing clients? How does the interaction of these groups shape law firm reputation and legitimacy?

In response to each paper, a practitioner (legal or non-legal) with relevant experience will begin the discussion by commenting on the scholarship. The conversation then will expand to include both audience members and other panelists.

Attendance and Registration

Who should attend?

Scholars; lawyers practicing in law firms, corporations and in other organizations; non-practicing lawyers working in various capacities; executives and consultants working with law firms; communications specialists; members of the legal press; and others interested in the legal profession.

There is no fee to attend the symposium, but we ask that you register beforehand. To register, please complete and submit the attached registration form. For information and registration, please contact:

Academic Conferences & Continuing Legal Education
Phone: 202-662-9890
E-mail: cle@law.georgetown.edu

Empirical Research on the Legal Profession: Symposium Schedule

8:00-8:30 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast	
8:45-9:00 am	Opening Remarks Mitt Regan, Co-Director, Center for the Study of the Legal Profession, and Professor, Georgetown University Law Center	
9:00-9:45 am	Paper Presentations Susan Saab Fortney, Paul Whitfield Horn Professor, Texas Tech University School of Law <i>Taking Data Seriously: How Lawyers Can Use Empirical Studies on the Legal Profession</i>	Commentary Jim Jones, Chairman, Hildebrandt Institute and Vice President, Hildebrandt International
9:45-10:30 am	Bryant Garth, Dean and Professor, Southwestern Law School, and Joyce Sterling, Professor, University of Denver College of Law <i>Exploring Inequality in the Corporate Law Firm Apprenticeship: Doing the Time, Finding the Love</i>	Susan Klooz, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Legal Administration and External Relations, Wal-Mart
10:30-11:00 am	Break	
11:00-11:45 am	Paper Presentation Michele D. Beardslee, Climenko Fellow, Harvard Law School <i>Advocacy in the Court of Public Opinion Part I: Broadening the Role of Corporate Attorneys</i>	Commentary Janet Stanton, Partner, Adam Smith, Esq.
11:45-1:30 pm	Lunch and Panel: The Media and the Legal Profession Introduction, Jeffrey Bauman, Co-Director, Center for the Study of the Legal Profession, and Professor, Georgetown University Law Center Bruce MacEwan, President, Adam Smith, Esq., moderator Aric Press, Editor-in-Chief, The American Lawyer Despina Kartson, Chief Marketing Officer, Latham & Watkins David Lat, Founding Editor, AboveTheLaw.com Susan Jacobsen, Director of Communications and Public Relations, Association of Corporate Counsel	
1:30-1:50 pm	Break	
1:50-3:20 pm	Paper Presentations: The Challenges of Globalization James Faulconbridge, Lecturer, Lancaster University, and Daniel Muzio, Lecturer, Leeds University Business School <i>Professional Cultures and Professional Training in Large and Global Law Firms</i> Carole Silver, Executive Director, Center for the Study of the Legal Profession, and Visiting Professor, Georgetown University Law Center; Nicole De Bruin Phelan; and Mikaela Rabinowitz, Department of Sociology, Northwestern University <i>Between Diffusion and Distinctiveness in Globalization: US Law Firms Go Glocal</i>	Commentary Thomas W. Albrecht, Partner, Sidley Austin LLP Lee Miller, Joint Chief Executive Officer, DLA Piper
3:20-3:30 pm	Break	
3:30-4:15 pm	Paper Presentation William Henderson, Professor, Indiana University School of Law <i>An Empirical Analysis of Lateral Lawyer Trends from 2000 to 2007: The Emerging Equilibrium for Corporate Law Firms</i>	Commentary Carol Clayton, Assistant Managing Partner, WilmerHale
4:15-4:30 pm	Concluding Thoughts Robert Nelson, Director and MacCrate Research Chair in the Legal Profession, American Bar Foundation	

The Center for the Study of the Legal Profession at Georgetown Law Center is devoted to:

- Promoting interdisciplinary scholarship on the profession informed by awareness of the dynamics of modern practice;
- Providing students with a sophisticated understanding of the opportunities and challenges of a career in law; and
- Furnishing members of the bar and regulators with an opportunity to engage in dialogue relating to broad perspectives on trends and developments in practice and governance frameworks.

In support of its mission, the Center sponsors symposia, research, publications, workshops and speakers designed to foster exchanges among scholars, practitioners and students. The Center's leadership is comprised of Mitt Regan, Jeffrey Bauman and Carole Silver.

GEORGETOWN LAW

REGISTRATION FORM

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Gewirz Student Center, 12th Floor

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