
Report on the East Asian Legal Studies Center

PROFESSOR CHARLES IRISH
Volkman-Bascom Professor of Law

The Center was established in April, 1990, with several areas of focus related to the law and East Asia: student assistance; scholarly exchange; outreach and research; and curriculum and library enhancement.

Student Assistance

The core of the Center's assistance to students lies in its ability to help structure individualized study programs for students from East and Southeast Asia who come to the Law School for advanced legal studies. Most of these students are degree candidates in the Legal Institutions program (MLI), a coursebased master's in legal studies which allows students to select widely from Law School courses as well as from the offerings of other departments at the University. With minimal mandatory courses and a broad range of University-wide course offerings, students are afforded great flexibility to design a customized program of course study and research.

The Center is also able to provide special training programs to those who are admitted, with the permission of the Dean of the Law School, as non-degree students at the Law School. The course of study and research for non-degree students is more flexible than that of the MLI candidates, because of not having to meet specific degree requirements.

The Center also assists students from East Asia who are interested solely in research and writing who are LLM candidates. Many of you have occasionally had MLI students in your classes, and many of you also have acted as advisors to MLI candidates, as well as LLM and SJD candidates.

The Center helps JD students who are interested in Centerrelated topics by acting as a general clearing house of information and resources. In addition, it has encouraged JD students to consider projects involving East Asia by offering travel grants to those interested in doing research on legal issues involving countries of East Asia and Southeast Asia, as well as trying to link students with professors in East Asia who are able to advise them regarding a specific topic. With travel assistance from the Center, JD students have done field research in Vietnam, Malaysia, Hong Kong, China, Japan, and Thailand.

The Center was also instrumental in the Law School is receiving a grant from the UW's Office of International Studies and Programs for its Fund for International Education Program. This Program, with seed money from OISP, offered JD students a one-semester study abroad opportunity. The grant was from 1992-1995, and led to exchanges with Portales Law School in Santiago, Chile, as well as exchanges with Osaka University and Aichi University (near Nagoya) in Japan.

Scholarly Exchange

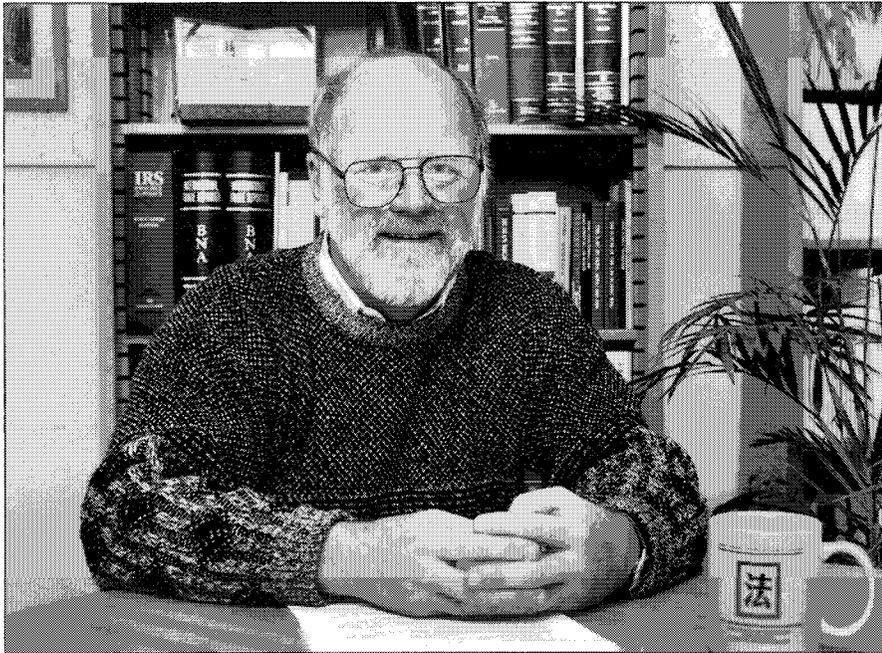
In working to promote scholarly exchanges between the Law School and universities of East Asia, the Center has invited several professionals to be Visiting Fellows and has sponsored visiting professors who have come to the Law School to lecture.

During 1991-92, the Center hosted Professor Seokin Huang of Seoul National University and Professor Koichiro Fujikura of the University of Tokyo, both of whom gave lectures at the Law School. In the

92-93 academic year, the Center helped bring attorney Craig Ehrlich, now practicing in Seoul, Korea, to speak at the International Law Society's Symposium. The Center was delighted to help the Law School be a Japan Foundation Visiting Professorship recipient; in the spring of 1993, Professors Itsuko and Yoshiharu Matsuura were Japan Foundation Visiting Professors at the Law School and taught a three-credit J.D. seminar, "Introduction to the Japanese Legal System." Last year, the Center hosted Wang Feng-yuan from the East China University- of Politics and Law, Shanghai, as a Visiting Fellow.

Several distinguished visiting faculty have come to the Law School for short periods to teach a 2 credit course entitled "Asian Law" that was offered in the spring of 1995 for J.D. and master's candidates. Invited faculty were Takao Tanase (Kyoto University), Satoru Osanai (Chuo University), Seokin Huang (Seoul National University), Chen Zhidong (East China University of Politics and Law, Shanghai), Pisawat Sukonthapan (Thammasat University, Bangkok), Masaki Abe (Osaka City University), and Itsuko Matsuura (Aichi University, Japan).

Other visitors at the Center have included C.C. Yen from Taipei, Jeong-Oh Kim from Yonsei University, Yunggho Kim from Dong-A University, Peter Wesley-Smith from University of Hong Kong, Zhang Qiang from Nankai University, Yusuke Kikuchi from Asahi University, Hee-Tae Suk from Kyonggi University, Sun Chao from East China University of Politics and Law, Xu Xianghua from East China University of Politics and Law, Wang Chenguang from City University of



Hong Kong, and Fumitoshi Tamakuni of Meiji Gakuin University.

The Center has also tried to assist the Law School's faculty and academic staff find possibilities for lecturing and doing research in East Asia. We have compiled a booklet of those interested in teaching in East Asia; I have used this booklet when I have met with university officials in Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Indonesia, Thailand, and China, as well as in Australia. Thus far, members of our faculty who have given lectures in East Asia are Dan Bernstine, Arlen Christenson, Larry Church, Linda Greene, Beverly Moran, and Gerry Thain. In addition, under the Center's sponsorship, Linda Greene gave a professional presentation at the Conference on Non-Governmental Organizations recently concluded in China.

The Law School recently signed an agreement with Chuo University, a private university in Tokyo, for a law faculty member to teach a short course on American Law beginning in 1995. Arlen Christenson will be the first participant, beginning this fall. We also have good working

relationships with Seoul National University, Korea University, and Yonsei University in Korea; Chulalongkorn University and Thammasat University in Thailand; University of Indonesia in Indonesia; National Taiwan University, National Cheng Chi University, Soochow University, and the Ministry of Finance in Taiwan; Hong Kong University and City University of Hong Kong in Hong Kong; Aichi University and Osaka University in Japan; and the East China University of Politics and Law, the Ministry of Justice, and the State Bureau of Foreign Experts in China. During the summer of 1995, the Center hosted a delegation of Chinese professors working with the State Bureau of Foreign Experts.

Outreach and Research

The Center has involved itself in several educational outreach ventures. In the summer of 1991, the Center organized and co-sponsored an international conference on the Taxation of Tax-Exempt Organizations. The conference was held in Taipei with presentation of papers by scholars from nine countries; the proceedings were subsequently published in the Bulletin

from the International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation (The Netherlands).

Since 1991, the Center has worked with the Public Finance Training Institute, a governmental agency in Taipei, to cosponsor a 14-week international training program for customs officials from Taiwan and several other countries. The program's lecturers covered current issues of international trade relevant to customs officials.

This past year, the Center was involved with the establishment of the China International Lawyers Training Center in Shanghai, a nine-week training program on international commercial law for Chinese lawyers.

In the near future, the Center is planning to co-sponsor professional training programs in Hong Kong (with the City University of Hong Kong) and Bangkok (with Thammasat University).

Curriculum and Library Enhancement

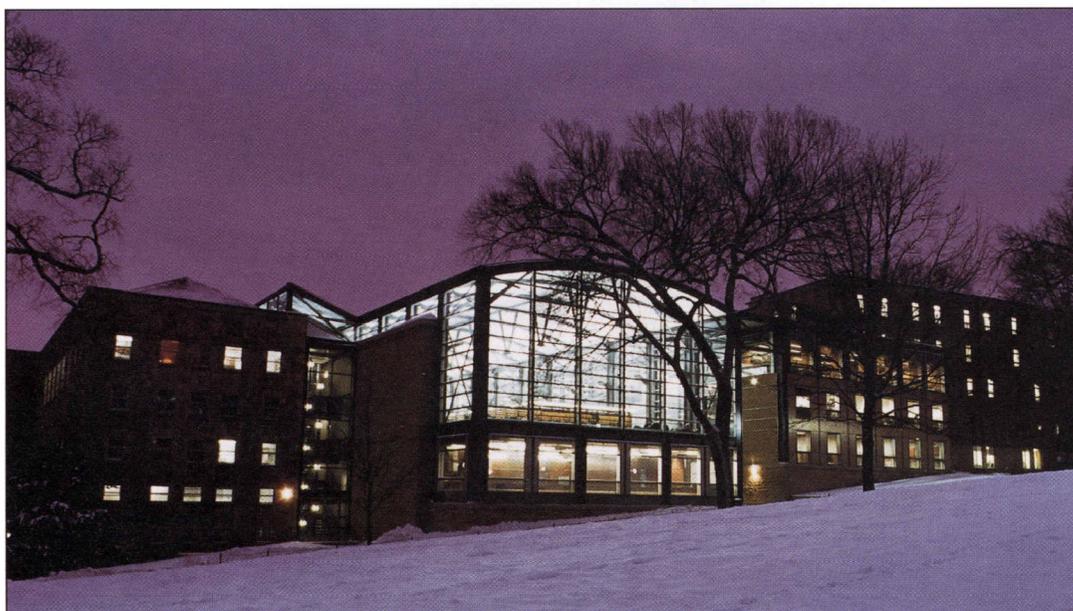
During the past five years, the Center has been instrumental in having several new courses added to the Law School's curriculum. Some were for a limited time only, such as Chinese Law, International Negotiations, Introduction to the Legal System of Japan, and Asian Law. Others have become regular offerings of Law School; these are Legal Issues between Countries of North America and East Asia, Contemporary Issues in American Law, Legal Sources, and Legal Writing for Foreign Students.

To supplement the Library's East Asian collection, the Center has underwritten subscriptions to various periodicals and journals from with East and Southeast Asia, as well as a number of looseleaf services, books, and reference materials.

Please give me a call if you want any additional information about the Center's projects.

GALA CELEBRATION!

A Law School for the
21st Century



*Join us for the Dedication
of the New and Renovated
Law School Building*

*Saturday, April 26, 1997
6:30 to 10:00 pm*

Refreshments
Entertainment
Tours
Dedication Ceremony



Dean Daniel O. Bernstine cordially invites you to the Dedication of our new and renovated Law School building. The \$16.1 million project, begun in the fall of 1994, is now completed. Students, faculty, and staff are now enjoying what must be one of the finest teaching and research facilities in the world of legal education.

We will be proud to have you attend our ceremonies. For more information, contact:

Edward J. Reisner, Assistant Dean
University of Wisconsin Law School
975 Bascom Mall
Madison, Wisconsin 53706
608/262-8554
ereisner@facstaff.wisc.edu