**Upcoming Events:**

**2008-2009 LONDON COMPARATIVE ADVOCACY PROGRAM**

**Dec. 27-Jan. 10, 2009**

**Study Law Abroad**

*Beijing, China*

May 23 thru June 20, 2009
For more information go to:
[www.luc.edu/law/china](http://www.luc.edu/law/china)

*Rome, Italy*

June 22 thru July 17, 2009
For more information go to:
[www.luc.edu/law/rome](http://www.luc.edu/law/rome)

*Strasbourg, France & Luxembourg*

July 21 thru July 30, 2009

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**Summer 2008**

During the summer of 2008, Loyola law students took the initiative to engage in a number of law-related activities that took them outside the United States. Some of these students studied in our study abroad programs in Beijing, Rome, and Strasbourg. Other students obtained legal jobs or internships overseas, some of which were supported by International Summer Fellowship Grants from the law school. This issue of *International News* is devoted to students’ stories of their summer international experiences.

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**STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS**

**Beijing by David Patariu**

My first thought upon arriving in Beijing was how massive the airport was. My second though was how there was granite everywhere. The floors, walls, counter tops, were all granite. I would never again be impressed when a real estate agent says “and it has granite counter tops!” Thus began my many revelations about China.

I had come to China as part of Loyola-Chicago Law’s 1st annual China Program in Beijing. Students were collected at the airport by staff from the Beijing Center and brought by car to the Beijing Center university campus, where we would spend the next three weeks living and studying.

I was honestly impressed with student accommodations. The student apartments were air-conditioned, had separate bedrooms, large desks, private bathrooms, and a small kitchen. There was even granite stairs up to the apartments where Loyola Law students were housed - - more granite! Although the kitchens in the student apartments lacked refrigerators, a quick trip to Beijing’s Walmart Superstore remedied that minor inconvenience.

Each day of the China Program was action packed. Mornings were filled with lectures from the faculty. Afternoons were filled with excursions around Beijing, shopping, and time to study. The Great Wall, the Temple of Heaven, the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, Tian'anmen Square . . . name the attraction, it was probably part of the program.

The program also took a weekend trip via plane to Xi’an, an ancient capital of China which today is primarily known as the site of the Qin Dynasty terracotta army. Racing bikes on the original Xi’an city walls was one of the most memorable experiences of this weekend trip. Seeing the terricotta army, and meeting the Chinese farmer that discovered the Xi’an’s terricotta army while digging a well, was pretty memorable too!
**Beijing** (continued)

The China Program was a relatively cheap trip. In China you could buy handmade suits for under one hundred dollars, get lunch for under three dollars, and grab a beer for under two dollars. A favorite shopping spot for students, the Xiu Shui Silk Market, which sold all kinds international brands at incredible discount prices: purses, “murses”, handbags, golf clubs . . . much of the merchandise is fake, but deals could be had for students comfortable haggling over prices.

Interacting with the faculty, and their significant others, outside of class was also a fun part of the China Program. When a large group of students and faculty went out to karaoke, I shared a set singing “You are the Sunshine of My Life” by Stevie Wonder with Elaine Williams, Professor Neil Williams’ wife. Other students sang several sets with Dean Jean, including a song about going over a borderline, by Madonna. I also had fun haggling over prices with local street vendors for Professor Diane Geraghty and her husband, Professor Thomas Geraghty from Northwestern Law. Any meal with Professor John McCormack was entertaining for students, as he always catalyzed rich dialogue and debate between the students he sat with.

Finally, the most valuable aspect of the China Program was getting to know so many other Loyola law students in an environment that was not “socratically pressurized.” Having been to London, Chile, and China through the various study abroad programs offered at Loyola Law, I feel these programs are the best part of what the law school offers.

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**Rome by Lindsey Carpino**

I had the wonderful opportunity to attend the 2008 Study Abroad Program in Rome this past summer. I was not sure what to expect since I had never been to Italy before, but Dean Jean Gaspardo did her very best to ensure everyone had a chance of a life time experience. Not only was I able to experience my Italian heritage though a deep rooted culture, I was also able to get to know my fellow classmates and professors. We had the chance to visit the Italian Supreme Court and the Avvocatura Generale dello Stato, or Attorney General’s office.

From the breathtaking artwork, food, language, weekend get-aways to other areas in Italy or even other countries, Rome was truly a remarkable experience. One in which I will hold dearly to my heart. My father and mother also came to visit for a week, which was the best family vacation we have ever experienced. I am very greatful for having this opportunity, and I encourage all to take it while they have the chance.

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**Rome by Matthew Allabastro**

The food, the wine, the weather, everything seems better in Italy, Luigi Barzini contends in his book *The Italians*. Being in Italy is like being in love, he concludes. Yet there is plenty of love lost when European lawyers talk about the Italian legal system. The high courts of the European Union have repeatedly penalized Italy for failing to implement its directives on time, and foreign governments say the courts are infested with organized crime, payoffs, and unqualified judges. Why, then, would anybody want to study law in Italy?

This question was answered early on during my summer study in Rome, where a group of about 35 law students visited some of Italy’s most important legal institutions and interacted with some of its most important lawyers. On one trip to the office of the Avvocatura Generale dello Stato, a panel of Italian lawyers and scholars described the challenges confronting Italy and the need for change. They also described those who stand in the way of this change, such as the older attorneys at the Avvocatura Generale’s office who refuse to use computers despite a paper logjam so unmanageable that staff must wheel legal files in and out of offices like luggage carriers at the airport.
Rome (continued)

Yet, one judge said that Italy is unfairly criticized by those in northern Europe who refuse to recognize that nations in the “Olive Belt” — Italy, Spain, Portugal, Greece — have a different legal culture that cannot be so easily adapted. Italy has not met all of the EU’s deadlines because judges like himself value making correct judicial decisions over quick ones.

Still, Rome’s most interesting teachers are more likely found in the restaurants than in the courtrooms. For instance, on my way into central Rome I met a waiter named Leonardo who ran a small restaurant on Via Vittorio Emmanuele, a main artery of Rome that connects Castle St. Angelo on one side of the River Tiber to the Coliseum and the Foro Romano on the other. Leonardo stood outside his restaurant all day pleading with passersby to sit and eat. Relax, this is Italy! Leonardo was convincing too, because his restaurant was always packed. His philosophy was simple. People come to Rome for many reasons, some for the spirituality of the Vatican, others for the masterful architecture of the Renaissance, still others for the opera. But no matter why they come, they all have to eat sometime. He told me to spend more time at the sun-drenched Roman cafes than in the museums. Enjoy life, don’t ponder it.

No one will ever sculpt a statue of Leonardo the waiter, but perhaps he had more in common with the great thinkers than he will ever know. After all, it was Cicero who said, “There is nothing so absurd that some philosopher has not already said it.” Now that’s Italian.

Strasbourg, by Matthew Allabastro

An American law student studying jurisprudence in continental Europe is like being handed a snowboard after spending a year learning how to ski. Suddenly after completing a year of law school, I was a beginner again. I could not lean on American concepts of federal procedure, stare decisis, and the common law. This was a whole new playing field. But as Justice O.W. Holmes once said, “Your education begins, when what is called your education, ends.”

Last summer, after spending six weeks in Rome studying international law and the European Union, I joined a group of about eight students in Strasbourg, which is centrally located in France on the border of Germany. Nestled in Alsace-Lorraine, an agricultural region known for its white wines and German influenced cuisine, Strasbourg is home to the Council of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights. A few hours drive northwest lies Luxemburg and the European Union Court of Justice. Ironically, Alsace-Lorraine, which historically had seen so much French and German blood spilt in territorial wars, today is home to the European legal community — and its many challenges.

The judges, attorneys, and their staff at the European Court of Human Rights, an intelligent and dedicated group of professionals, work hard to find equitable solutions to complicated problems. We observed one hearing between a Russian-born litigant who filed suit against the nation of Latvia for cutting off her pension earned while working in Latvia during the Russian occupation. The attorney for Latvia argued that at the time Russia was an invading force, and Latvia was not in control of its government, therefore modern Latvia should not be held to agreements formed under Russian rule. The somber panel of judges asked many questions, and the lawyers for both sides demonstrated the confidence and polish of knowledgeable and practiced attorneys.

My favorite memory of the trip was the cordial treatment we received from the European lawyers and their staffs. Time and again they told us how honored they were to host a group of Americans studying European law. Law professors often tell their students that lawyers are part of a legal community and that law is different than any other profession because it relies on lawyers dealing honestly with each other and respecting the law. Traveling so far and experiencing this collegiality first hand made me proud to be part of the legal community, even if just a beginner.
INTERNATIONAL SUMMER FELLOWSHIP GRANTS

Respect University - Refugees in Uganda by Heather Liberman

Beginning in the summer of 2008 and continuing to the present, I have volunteered for Respect University. This is an organization created to educate refugees while they are displaced. The refugees I have been working with are Congolese who are now part of the Refugee Law Project living in Uganda. The way I teach my students is through email. The course is International Relations with a focus on law. I create each lesson then email it to my superior, a woman living in Uganda. She then distributes the lesson to my students who hand write their responses, which are then scanned and sent back to me.

This experience has expanded my understanding of the people living as refugees. Because my students answers are handwritten, each response contains a human element. My students are generally college aged men, and many had previous college level education in the Congo. Although grading can take many hours because English is not their first language, their command for the concepts is clear. Most have lost many if not all of their family members, and yet their perspective on the possibilities for peace are unshakable. I ask my students to include their opinion as part of each assignment, and without exception they believe that community coupled with tolerance can overcome the problems in the world.

Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago de Chile by Honorine Richards

My summer at the law school of Universidad Alberto Hurtado in Santiago, Chile was full of new experiences. I was able to complete various research assignments, teach classes, explain some cultural differences between life in Santiago and life in Chicago, and have other Chilean experiences. My professors at the law school opened their homes to me. I was able to eat lunch and dinner with many of the students and professors.

I worked as a teaching assistant under Professor Hugo Rojas. As a teaching assistant, I gave introductory classes on the American legal system. The introductory classes I taught included: Contracts, Evidence, Criminal Law, Tort Law, and Trial Technique. I taught these classes in English as well as Spanish. The classes were conducted in a round table format which made it much more conducive to discussion and a real comparative environment. My students and I also compared the difference between life in Chicago and Santiago.

Further, I met with the Chilean students who were chosen to do a comparative study between the laws of Chile and the laws of Illinois. During these meetings, we discussed many differences between the American legal system and the Chilean legal system. This included even the differences in everyday life. I was able to explain to them a little about life in Chicago and law school in the city. The students, in turn, were able to share Chilean life with me.

When I first arrived at Hurtado, I began working in different areas of research, for students as well as professors. I held office hours during the morning and attended comparative law classes in the afternoon. During my office hours, I taught students how to research using Westlaw and Lexis-Nexis to find information involving different areas of the American legal system. Additionally, students would bring me English articles that were pertinent to their thesis papers, and I would help them decipher the legal jargon. There were also times when I would translate entire articles for students and professors. I also edited articles for publication.

I also came to understand what was important to the students in Chile. For much of my time in Chile, high school students were on strike, not attending classes and protesting outside of their schools, often with encouragement from their professors. I understood that better education, lower priced schools, new books, better teachers, and an equal opportunity were important to Chilean students. Universities supported the students’ focus toward better education. For instance, Hurtado held a symposium inviting a Brazilian speaker to talk about the changing conditions in the Brazilian favelas; he discussed the trend now to incorporate better education into these lower income areas and how Chile could do the same.

In closing, my experience this summer was a learning period as well as a growing period. I learned many things I did not know about the Chilean legal system as well as myself. I learned (or remembered) what it is like to feel passion for education and equal opportunity as well as life. I grew to understand other ways of conducting business, other ways to be a lawyer, and other ways to live my life—internationally. I am just so thankful and grateful for the opportunity.
**Latinos Progresando by Nubia Willman**

I had an internship with Latinos Progresando, a non-profit based in Pilsen. This is a community organization that provides many services, and I worked in the legal services department. The department offered family-based immigration help. When I began, I thought I would get to observe client intakes and shadow my supervisor, maybe do some research. But from the beginning it was a very hands-on experience. I was given a crash course on the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and how it affects undocumented immigrants. Within a week I had my first client and was able to start compiling her case. My supervisor, Marcy Gonzalez, made it clear that I was responsible for this person's application.

I realized just how big that responsibility was the first time I interviewed my client. After we discussed the abuse that she was going through, and after she told us that she was filing this application in secret because she still was living with her abusive husband, she burst into tears when we explained that she would be able to self-petition for herself. This meant that, if the application were approved, she would be able to stay in this country with her children. She wouldn't have to rely on her U.S. citizen husband to get those documents.

That first meeting always stayed with me and made me eager to file her case as soon as possible. This experience made me realize that I do have a passion for immigration law and it is something I want to continue to pursue. Because of this internship I was able to get an externship with the Legal Assistance Foundation (LAF) this fall, where I currently am working on more VAWA cases. All of this would not have been possible without the assistance of the International Summer Fellowship Grant.

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**Institute for Cultural Diplomacy, Berlin, Germany by Lindsay Stanley**

This summer I worked for the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy in Berlin, Germany as an International Law Fellow. I was first brought in as a researcher to add a legal dimension to the Institute's database which held mainly political science, literary, and historical research. The Institute focuses on inter-cultural relations, diplomatic means of solving problems, and developing preemptive negotiations to diffuse issues. As a fellow, I researched issues of contention in public and private international law. I interviewed governmental and non-governmental entities to discuss philanthropic work, and corporate social responsibility for example. I even interviewed the Egyptian Ambassador to Germany to discuss Middle Eastern relations in the Western world, and his views on the strength of peace treaties in the region.

Before I left, Karadzic was captured. [Radovan Karadzic is a Bosnian Serb leader who was indicted for war crimes against non-Serb peoples at Sarajevo and Srebenica, and who had been hunted since 1996.] I researched the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), where Karadzic would be tried, and the procedures used at that court in the Hague. I also researched as to what this would mean for Bosnia and its path the EU.

Our director asked me to teach a few seminars on public international law (what is the UN and the EU, what is a treaty, sources of international law) for our summer academy (through Humboldt University). I was also asked to do some immigration and intellectual property work, as the closest thing to in-house counsel. I managed to get visas approved for two of our Nigerian young leaders, as well as student and work visas for the other interns. I also filed for a design copyright for the 2012 Vancouver games on behalf of our Sport as Cultural Diplomacy department.

It was a diverse experience, one that has enriched my legal background, and I believe was far more interesting as a 1L than a firm setting. I don't have anecdotes really, other than not speaking German, and having lots of confusion when my instructions or comments were lost in translation. Using abbreviations was not the best move I could have made, and I gave many a native German speaker a headache from my bad American English. All in all, it was painless, and now I can speak some limited German.
OTHER INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Hong Kong by Joshua Heffernan

This past March, I competed with Loyola law students in the Vis East Moot Arbitration Competition in Hong Kong, where I performed well and was named First Runner-Up for the Best Oral Advocate Award. Loyola's team as a whole performed well — Beata Guzik also received an Honorable Mention for the Best Oral Advocate, and Tiffany Jaspers came very close.

Following the competition, I happened to speak with one of the judges, a partner in the Hong Kong office of the American law firm Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe. When I mentioned to him that I had lived in China for many years and spoke fluent Mandarin, he invited me to the firm for an interview. The interview led to an offer for a summer position working in the firm's Hong Kong office.

I spent most of my time at Orrick this summer assisting a partner with his arbitration practice. I helped draft arbitration clauses and an arbitration claim statement of defense, reviewed party correspondence, analyzed the implications of the rules of different arbitral institutes, and even helped with several of the firm's corporate and transactional matters.

The opportunity to return to China this summer and work in an American law firm was an amazing experience. Never underestimate the value of hard work, networking, and a little luck to help you find an interesting and rewarding job.

Beijing, China by David Patariu

This summer I worked at a Chinese intellectual property law firm, Linda LIU & Partners, in Beijing. My travels in China started with Loyola’s 1st annual China program in Beijing. After expressing an interest in Chinese intellectual property law, Dean Jean Gaspardo and Professor Chunlin Leonhard arranged for me to meet with lawyers from a local intellectual property firm. The named partner of the firm offered me a summer internship during the meeting, which I immediately accepted.

Two days after the meeting, with the help of Professor Leonhard, I was set up with a place to live across the street from the law firm, and an extension of my visa so that I could stay in China and work at the firm until the end of the summer.

While at the firm I reviewed office actions, attended court with the attorneys, and reviewed journal articles describing subtle points in Chinese intellectual property law. The partners of the firm also held lectures for me about Chinese intellectual property law. In return, they asked me to give lectures about law in the United States. By the end of the summer I had given fifteen lectures, covering the basics of the American legal system and intellectual property law.

On the afternoon of my last day in China, I attended the Olympics with three people that I had worked closely with at the firm. Looking back, I never expected to spend two months in China this summer, and never thought I would be working for a Chinese law firm while in China. By being proactive, I was able to turn a memorable travel and academic experience into an outstanding work and legal experience.

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