

BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF LABOR LAW and SOCIAL SECURITY—U.S. BRANCH

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Note From the Chair

On September 3rd the International Society's Executive Committee had a productive meeting in Stockholm prior to the start of the European Regional Congress. (The Executive Committee is the Society's representative chamber with a delegate from each national affiliate.) Most newsworthy for the U.S. Branch is that the joint U.S.-Canadian nomination of Clyde Summers to be the Society's next president was seconded by the Japanese and Philippine delegations and was unanimously endorsed by the Executive Committee. The formal election of Clyde will take place at the Society's World Congress in Montevideo next September. (See details, below.) Given the considerable current anti-American sentiments in many parts of the world, the unanimous support for Clyde was a tribute to his many decades of outstanding contributions to scholarship and teaching, to service to the Society, and to efforts to improve understanding of comparative and international labor and employment law.

The Executive Committee also reviewed, modified and endorsed the proposed amendments to the Society's charter. A key change will add the office of President-elect. Another will formally shift most key decisions to the Executive Committee (which, as a practical matter, has been making those decisions from the Society's founding). The proposed amended charter, which will be submitted for General Assembly approval at the Montevideo meeting, can be seen at the Society's web site:

www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/inst/isllss/

Another development at the meeting was endorsement of the idea of organizing "study groups" as an additional Society activity. The concept is to bring together members who share special interests in particular substantive or procedural topics so that they can correspond and conduct adjunct programs at the Society's conferences. The Society's International President, Roger Blanpain, is organizing a Study Group on

the topic of methods, problems and materials for teaching comparative labor and employment law. And, our own Vice Chair, George Nicolau, is organizing a study group on the use of arbitration as a dispute resolution mechanism. Those interested in participating in one of these study groups can contact Roger (roger.blanpain@cer-leuven.be) or George (GNicolau@aol.com), respectively. Anyone interested in developing a new study group should contact the Society's Acting Secretary-General, Arturo Bronstein (bronstein@ilo.org).

For those who did not attend the Stockholm meeting, let me simply report that in addition to an interesting program, there were opportunities to meet conferees from 49 countries and experience one of Europe's great cities in ideal weather.

Nominating Committee

In accordance with our Articles of Association, the election of the Branch's National Executive Board will be conducted next Spring. Dennis Nolan has been appointed Chair of the Nominating Committee. Names of members who you think should be nominees should be sent to Dennis (Dennis@law.law.sc.edu; or School of Law, Univ. of South Carolina, 701 Main St., Columbia, SC 29208-0001) for receipt by no later than January 10, 2003.

Resource for Discovering New Journal Articles

Professor Katherine Stone invites members to take advantage of a free service provided by the Cornell law school called the Globalization and Labor Standards (GALS) list-serve. Once a month those who sign-up will receive an e-mail message with abstracts of recent law journal articles exploring international labor standards and labor rights in the global economy. These abstracts, taken from English language law journals from around the world, are organized by subject heading, author, journal, and date, and cross-referenced with

with full citations. List-serve members also have access to the GALS website at:

www.lawschool.cornell.edu/library/gals
which archives previously posted abstracts.

If you are interested in this service, to subscribe send the following email to:

listinfo@postoffice.law.cornell.edu

Subject: [empty];

First line of the message: *SUBSCRIBE GALS-list*
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WORLD CONGRESS

It is time to make preliminary plans to attend the next World Congress of the ISLLSS which will be held in **Montevideo**, Uruguay. Montevideo was a featured city in the Nov-Dec 2002 issue of National Geographic Traveler which describes its many attractions and emphasizes that it is an outstandingly safe and hospitable place to visit.

The Congress will be conducted from **September 2-5, 2003** at the Radisson Montevideo Victoria Plaza hotel. There will be simultaneous translation in English. Pre or post meeting side-trips can be arranged to Iguazú Falls, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, and elsewhere. Themes to be covered are: The Actors in Collective Bargaining (Edwin Render prepared the U.S. report), Labor Law and the Fundamental Rights of the Person (Alvin Goldman prepared the U.S. report), and Social Protection for the Unemployed (Steven Willborn prepared the U.S. report). In addition, there will be a roundtable on Labour Law vis-a-vis New Forms of Corporate Organization, and possibly one other round table.

Registration **prior to March 31, 2003** is \$150 for conferees and \$40 for accompanying persons. After that, registration is \$200 and \$50, respectively, through July, and \$250 and \$60, respectively, after that. Included are a cocktail reception, city tour, cultural activities, and a closing dinner.

All hotel prices include breakfast. The current quoted prices (subject to modification) for single occupancy at the Radisson is \$85/day; \$95 for double occupancy. Other hotels listed by the arrangements committee range from \$35/\$45 to \$130/\$145.

The Congress has a web site at:

www.congresomontevideo2003.com

Other Meetings

A Western Hemisphere ISLLSS Regional Congress will be conducted in **Mexico City** from **September 13-16, 2004**. Topics to be covered are: Special Employment Relations, Internationalization of Labor and Employment Relations in the Framework of the Free Trade Agreement for the Americas, Privatization of Social Security?, The Right to Strike, and Social Accountability and Voluntary Codes of Practices.

The next Asian ISLLSS Regional Congress will be held in **Taipei** in **2005**; the European ISLLSS Regional Congress will convene in **Bologna** in **2005**, and an ISLLSS World Congress has been called for **Paris** in **2006**. ISLLSS members are welcome to attend all congresses regardless of whether they reside in the particular region and English is a working language at each of these meetings.

Other up-coming events that may be of interest to members include:

-March 5-6, 2003, Industrial Relations Association of South Africa, Gauteng, South Africa. Additional information available at www.irasa.org.za

-April 2-5, 2003, Caribbean Labor Policy Conference, Kingston, Jamaica. For details contact noel.cowell@uwimona.edu.jm

-September 8-12, 2003, Int'l Industrial Relations Ass'n, World Congress, Berlin. Information about the conference is available at:

<http://www.fu-berlin.de/irra2003>

-June 24-26, 2004, Int'l Industrial Relations Ass'n, Asian Regional Congress, Seoul. Information should be available at www.kli.re.kr/irra2004

Member Activities

West has just published the third edition of the coursebook *Legal Protection for the Individual Employee* prepared by Matthew Finkin, Alvin Goldman, Clyde Summers and Kenneth Dau-Schmidt.

Alvin Goldman's latest revision of his monograph on U.S. labor and employment law was distributed in the Fall by the *International Encyclopedia for Labor Law* (Kluwer Law International).

Matthew Finkin, Clyde Summers, and Alvin Goldman are among the contributors to *Changing Industrial Relations & Modernisation of Labour Law*, a book edited by Roger Blanpain and Manfred Weiss to be published by Kluwer Law International in honor of the late Professor Marco Biagi.

Professor Ron Brown recently presented a paper on "Legal Aspects of China's Cross-Border Labor Trafficking" in the Globalization Conference on Human Trafficking held in Honolulu, Hawaii. He also has been selected as a Task Leader on Industrial Relations for Developing Labor Laws and Practices in China under a four year project under the U.S. Dept. of Labor in cooperation with the Chinese Government.

Prof. Calvin Sharpe's article "Judicial Review of Arbitration Awards Under The New South Africa Labour Relations Act of 1995", can be found at 33 *Case W. Res. J. Int'l L.* 277 (2001).

During this past the Spring, Kenneth Dau-Schmidt was Visiting Professor, Juristische Fakultät, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Erlangen, Germany, where he taught Law and Economics.

Prima/Crown published *The Intelligent Negotiator* by Prof. Charles Craver (2002).

Prof. Stephen F. Befort of the University of Minnesota published "Labor and Employment Law at the Millennium: A Historical Review and Critical Assessment", 43 *Boston Col. L. Rev.* 351 (2002). The article, which uses a historical perspective to analyze the current state of labor and employment law in the United States, pays particular attention to the impact of globalization and the resulting exacerbation in the imbalance of power between labor and capital. The article makes four recommendations for systemic law reform with an eye toward the development of new international norms in the areas of job security, collective bargaining, employee participation programs, and the legal status of the contingent workforce.

In July, Prof. Timothy J. Heinsz visited the Beijing Arbitration Commission to establish a relationship and internship program between the University of Missouri Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution and the BAC. The BAC is a privately funded arbitration commission dealing primarily in domestic commercial and construction arbitration disputes. He also visited with partners of the AllBright Law Firm in Shanghai to establish an internship program for his law school with their 200 member law firm.

Reminders

- If you have not already done so, please pay your current dues.
- Send up-dates about your relevant activities to Prof. Edwin Render at Brandeis School of Law, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292-0001 or ed.render@louisville.edu
- Send Dennis Nolan any nomination proposals (see page 1).
- Return your ballots promptly when they arrive.
- Urge colleagues and other friends to join the Society. A letter and check to Bill Keller will suffice (Worsham Forsythe Wooldridge LLP, Energy Plaza, 30th floor, Dallas, TX 75201-3402).