Memorandum

To: Dena Huvwitz From: Beth Lyon Date: July 10, 2006

Re: AALS Survey of Human Rights Activities in American Law Schools

We are in the process of updating the AALS Survey of Human Rights Activities in American Law Schools. These surveys request information regarding international human rights activities in American Law Schools.

One purpose of this survey is to alert prospective student about human right s advocacy opportunities at your school. The second purpose of the survey is to help human rights advocates and victims who might seek your services. The survey is also intended to assist our colleagues in U.S. legal education who would like to become involved in international human rights service.

You have completed the survey in the past and we thank you for your participation. A copy of your past survey is currently posted at http://vls.law.vill.edu/clinics/aals/humanrightssurvey.htm and is enclosed. For your information a more recent version of the blank survey form is attached and can be found at http://vls.law.vill.edu/clinics/aals/humanrightssurvey.htm. If you do not wish to make changes to your existing survey at this time we will continue to post your previous responses.

Please fill out this survey and return it via fax at 610-519-5173 or e-mail at lyon@law.villanova.edu by Monday, July 31, 2006. If it is more convenient for you to respond to this request verbally, please call 610-519-7126 or e-mail lyon@law.villanova.edu, and we will be happy to set up a time to interview you over the phone.

Thank you very much for your help.

AALS International Human Rights Section Survey for Section Website

Name of your Institution: UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF LAW

Contact Person for Further Information (name, phone and email): DEENA R. HURWITZ, 434-924-4776 <u>deena@virginia.edu</u>
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Questions about your Human Rights Centers, Institutions or Programs (CIP):

1. How many Human Rights Centers, Institutions or Programs do you have and what are they called?

The Law School has a Human Rights Program (HRP). See http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/humanrights/hr program.htm

There is also the annual Human Rights Study Project, entirely student-initiated and organized, in which a small group of students receive credit for planning and carrying out a field mission to a country they select by consensus, and for writing academic papers on individual topics. For more details, see http://www.student.virginia.edu/~hrsp/

- For each separate one, please answer the following questions:
- 2. What is the makeup of the Center/Institute/Program staff? (full-time staff, part-time staff, law professors, law students, other professors or students, and advisory board)

Deena Hurwitz, assistant professor of law (full time), directs the Human Rights Program and teaches the International Human Rights Law Clinic. There is an informal faculty advisory committee, currently consisting of Professors David Martin and Paul Stephan. The HRP shares an administrative assistant, Cindy Derrick, with other clinics. A student coordinator is hired each year, and we have an ad hoc student advisory group.

3. How are law students involved with the CIP? (i.e. are there journals, newsletters, briefs, or other publications, human rights programs abroad, other international human rights campaigns, etc.)

Students can participate in an ad hoc student advisory group, assisting in planning and implementing events, outreach to the Law School (and university) community, and to prospective students. Students may do summer internships as well as external studies semesters with human rights organizations in the US and abroad. Students also work on human rights related pro bono projects, occasionally supervised by UVA faculty, occasionally on their own. The HRP also maintains an e-list, through which events and job/ internship opportunities are publicized. The John Bassett Moore Society for International Law is a student organization with which the HRP regularly collaborates and co-sponsors events.

4. If it's not obvious from the name of the program, does the CIP focus on any specific international human rights law issues (i.e. refugees, women's rights, etc.)?

The HRP focuses on a wide range of issues and current events with a human rights dimension.

5. What classes, seminars, symposiums, or other presentations have been offered in conjunction with the CIP?

Many course offerings, e.g., International Human Rights Law Clinic and Human Rights Advocacy seminar, see also for list of other related courses: http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/humanrights/hr courses.htm

The HRP sponsors many events, speakers, symposia, films, throughout the academic year. For examples, see:

http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/humanrights/hr_news.htm

6. Does the CIP assist students in acquiring internship/externship opportunities with human rights organizations (NGOs, IGOs, etc.)? Which organizations?

HRP faculty regularly mentor students looking for summer and post-graduate, and external studies (for credit) human rights opportunities in a wide range of positions and locations. See:

http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/humanrights/hr_career.htm

The HRP has established several opportunities expressly for UVA Law students, including:

- Summer internship with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (unfunded*)
- Summer internship with Human Rights First (unfunded*)
- Post-graduate traineeship (clerkship) with the International Court of Justice in the Hague (funded through a Law School endowment) (open to alumni up to 5 years after graduating)

Students may also apply for the annual Monroe Leigh Fellowship in Public International Law, a \$10,000 grant for work anywhere in the world. Though not a HRP fellowship, human rights faculty participate in the selection of the annual Fellow(s). See: http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/humanrights/hr_career.htm

• Students pursuing unfunded internships often receive small grants through the Public Interest Law Association (PILA). See, e.g.:

http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/publicserv/pilagrantees.htm

7. In general, how is the CIP funded?

The HRP is supported by the Law School.

8. Does the CIP have any affiliations with Human Rights groups outside the law school or university? Which ones? What is the nature of the affiliation?

We have relationships with a wide range of domestic and international human rights NGOs, tribunals, scholars, litigators, etc. based on personal and professional contact and work experience. We also have a good relationship with our colleagues at the Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School (which is located next to the Law School), and we regularly collaborate with them on programs.

9. Does the CIP allow student involvement in actual International Human Rights cases? What is the degree of that involvement?

Mainly through the clinic, see below, and through pro bono opportunities.

10. What, in your opinion, attracts students to participate in the CIP?

Students come to law school eager to be engaged in human rights issues, and also for the fellowship of like-minded students.

11. What are some specific projects or cases that the CIP has undertaken in recent years?

International Law and U.S. Government Actions in the Global "War on Terror," a joint symposium with the JAG Legal Center and School, featuring Ambassador Nancy Soderberg (Vice President, International Crisis Group)

"Extraordinary Rendition," Issues of Law and Policy, with Meg Satterthwaite (Research Director, Center for Human Rights and Global Justice, NYU School of Law) and Michael F. Scheuer, Former Chief, CIA Bin-Ladin Unit, Author, Imperial Hubris, co-sponsored with the JAG Legal Center and School

The Conjunction of Islamic Law and Secular Law: Guidance vs. Governance, with Abdulaziz Sachedina (Professor, U.Va. Dept. Religious Studies)

See http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/humanrights/hr_news.htm for other examples.

12. Are there cultural and language barriers that impede your work? If so, how have you overcome these barriers?

Occasionally these issues arise in the context of Clinic work, in particular. In such cases, we discuss reasons for the apparent barriers and possible avenues for mitigating the problems. These are learning opportunities.

13. Are there any other suggestions you may have concerning the organization of a CIP?

Questions about your human rights clinical work:

14. How many clinics do you have that are handling international human rights litigation or projects (by using international law in domestic fora and/or by taking matters to IGOs)?

The International Human Rights Law Clinic Immigration Clinic International Tribunals Clinic (2006-2007 only) Iraqi Tribunal Clinic (2006-2007 only)

For each such clinic, please answer the following questions:

15. What is the makeup of the clinic staff? (full-time staff, part-time staff, permanent/non-tenure track/temporary law professors, law students, other professors or students)

International Human Rights Law Clinic: one full time (non-tenure track) professor (Deena Hurwitz), up to 3 part-time supervising adjuncts who are practicing human rights attorneys (Katie Redford, *EarthRights International*; Mark Bromley, *Global Rights*; Mary Greer, *ABA CEELI*)

Immigration Clinic: one full-time (non-tenure track) professor (Doug Ford)

Int'l Tribunals and Iraqi Tribunal Clinics: visiting professor (Linda Malone, William & Mary Law School)

All clinics share an administrative assistant, Cindy Derrick.

16. In what fora do you practice?

Primarily with domestic and international NGOs; also with the Inter-American human rights system; Special Court for Sierra Leone; UN bodies; and domestic courts

17. Who are your case referral agencies?

Colleagues in human rights clinics and NGOs, as well as the above

18. Please list any partner NGOs that assist you in casework or in teaching the clinic.

Supervising adjuncts from EarthRights International, Global Rights, and ABA CEELI. For a sample of projects see

http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/humanrights/hr_program.htm#1 or contact Prof. Hurwitz (deena@virginia.edu) for a full list of projects undertaken by the clinic.

19. If you were planning to start up a human rights clinic, what are the most important substantive books to have on your shelf, the top websites you would bookmark and the most important listservs to join (you do not have to catalogue your library for us, we

would just like to let our colleagues know your "top ten list" of items you most strongly recommend for people who are starting out)?

Pedagogy and Human Rights: Teaching Human Rights: Ambivalent Activism, Multiple Discourses, and Lingering Dilemmas, by Peter Rosenblum, 15 Harv. Hum. Rts. J. 301 (Spring 2002)

Lawyering for Justice and the Inevitability of International Human Rights Clinics, by Deena Hurwitz, 28 Yale J. Int'l L. 505 (2003)

The Sources of Human Rights Law: Customs, Jus Cogens, and General Principles, by Bruno Simma and Philip Alston, 12 Aust. YBIL 82 (1988-1989)

HR Clinics e-list, managed by Prof. Arturo Carrillo: acarrillo@law.gwu.edu

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights: www.ohchr.org INTERIGHTS' HR Case-law Database:

http://www.interights.org/searchdatabases.php?dir=databases

Inter-American Court for Human Rights: www.oas.org

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library: www1.umn.edu/humanrts

World Legal Information Institute: www.worldlii.org

ASIL Guide Electronic Resources for Int'l Law / Int'l Human Rights:

www.asil.org/resource/humrts1.htm

Human Rights First: www.humanrightsfirst.org

Global Rights: www.globalrights.org

EarthRights International: www.earthrights.org

Center for Justice in International Law (CEJIL): www.cejil.org

Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR): www.ccr-ny.org

20. Do you have syllabi, simulations or any other material that you are able to make available to others, either upon request or by putting it up for colleagues on a shared link between the AALS human rights section website and your clinic's website (the AALS link could be password protected if this would be helpful)?

Contact Prof. Hurwitz.

21. What percentage of the students in this clinic typically travel abroad for their clinic work?

Our resources are limited so students very rarely travel abroad for clinic work.

22. Do students have the opportunity to meet their clients in person?

As much as possible, we arrange for students to meet representatives of the partner organizations in person. We always begin the projects with a conference call, in any event.

23. What mix of domestic work (if any) and international cases does this clinic handle?

Very roughly, 60% international advocacy and 40% domestic.

Individual Faculty Efforts:

24. Do you have any faculty that are performing or supervising significant international human rights litigation or projects outside the formal structure of centers and clinics? If so, what type of project and how many students are involved?

Students have taken on pro bono projects with Prof. Hurwitz for pro bono credit, e.g., with the UN Mission in Kosovo and US Dept. of Justice on a commentary of the Kosovo Criminal Procedure Code; and research on prescription (statutes of limitation) for crimes against humanity and disappearance in South Africa.

Externships:

25. Do you have students receiving credit for human rights service performed outside your law school? Roughly how many students are doing this each year? What percentage of externships involve placement outside the U.S.?

UVA Law students have done human rights related external studies semesters (for full credit) in Argentina, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, among other places. For more information on the External Studies Program, see: http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/extern.htm

A final draft of your responses will be circulated to you before it is uploaded to the Section website. Please let us know if you would prefer that any of your answers *not* be placed on the website.