Fifth Annual John F. Scarpa Conference

on Law, Politics, and Culture

February 11, 2011 9:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.
Registration and Continental Breakfast beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The fifth-annual John F. Scarpa Conference on Law, Politics, and Culture will explore the topics and themes of A Republic of Statutes: The New American Constitution (Yale University Press 2010) by William Eskridge, John A. Garver Professor of Jurisprudence at Yale Law School, and John Ferejohn, Charles Seligson Professor of Law at New York University School of Law. The book seeks to upset the usual understanding according to which the Constitution embodies our nation's highest aspirations. Eskridge and Ferejohn argue that we live instead under a statutory constitution that creates entrenched normative commitments in a gradual process of legislation and administration. This process, they argue, is superior to the amendment- or judge-centered process by which Constitutional entrenchment is supposed to proceed.

Professors Eskridge and Ferejohn will co-keynote the Conference, and leading scholars of constitutional law, administrative law, and political theory will respond to the bold and controversial claims of this monumental new book. Among the other speakers are Martin Shapiro (Boalt Hall), Henry Paul Monaghan (Columbia Law School), Kristin Hickman (University of Minnesota Law School), Jane Schacter (Stanford Law School), Thomas Merrill (Columbia Law School), David Stras (Minnesota Supreme Court), Ted Ruger (University of Pennsylvania Law School), and Patrick Brennan (Villanova School of Law). This program has been approved by the Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board for 4.5 substantive credits.

For registration and more information www.law.villanova/events

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW