1999

Institute of Bill of Rights Law Spring 1999 Schedule of Events

Institute of Bill of Rights Law at the William & Mary Law School

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Public Debate: Congressman Bobby Scott. Congressman Scott, a Democrat from Virginia and member of the House Judiciary Committee, will give a lecture entitled “The Impeachment of President Clinton.”

Scholar-in-Residence: Professor Akhil Amar, Yale Law School. Professor Amar, one of the nation’s leading constitutional theorists, will meet with students and faculty in small groups throughout his two-day visit and on January 22 deliver a lecture to the faculty on constitutional interpretation entitled “Intratextualism.”

Scholarly Symposium: “Rethinking the Bill of Rights.” This symposium examines recent reinterpretations of the history of the Bill of Rights, focusing on Professor Akhil Amar’s recently published book, The Bill of Rights: Creation and Reconstruction, which has been described by one leading constitutional scholar as “the most important book ever written on the Bill of Rights.” Speakers include Akhil Amar (Yale Law School); Michael Curtis (Wake Forest Law School); Michael Klarman (University of Virginia School of Law); and Melvin Urofsky (Virginia Commonwealth University). The proceedings of this program will be published in the William and Mary Bill of Rights Journal.

Practitioner-in-Residence: John Blume, Cornell Law School. Professor Blume, Director of the Cornell Death Penalty Project and one of the leading death penalty lawyers in the nation, will meet with students and faculty in small groups during his two-day visit to the law school. On February 23, he will deliver a public lecture.

Public Debate: “Should the Death Penalty Be Abolished?”
Legal theorists and ethicists have for many years debated the wisdom of using the death penalty to punish criminal defendants accused of murder. John Blume, Director of the Cornell Law School Death Penalty Project, will argue that the death penalty should be abolished, while Michael McGinty, Commonwealth's Attorney for Williamsburg/James City County will argue against abolition. Professor Paul Marcus of William and Mary Law School will moderate the debate.

**February 27**

*Scholarly Symposium:* "Fidelity, Economic Liberty, and 1937."
This symposium examines the recent resurgence of the doctrine of substantive due process to protect a range of economic liberties such as the right to abortion and the right to refuse medical treatment. The symposium questions whether substantive due process should be used to also protect economic liberties, such as liberty of contract. Legal scholars will present original papers on the conference theme. Speakers include: Alan Meese (William & Mary); David Bernstein (George Mason Law School); Rebecca Brown (Vanderbilt Law School); Barry Cushman (Virginia Law School); James Fleming (Fordham School of Law); John Harrison (Virginia Law School); Lawrence Lessig (Harvard Law School); John McGinnis (Cardozo School of Law). Professor Alan Meese is coordinating this program. The proceedings of this program will be published in the *William and Mary Law Review.*

**March 19**

*Student Symposium:* "www.cybersex.firstamendment: Policing Pornography on the Internet."
This is the 10th annual student symposium sponsored by the Institute of Bill of Rights Law. The symposium will examine the problem of pornography on the internet and the constitutionality of legal efforts to restrict access of minors to such pornography. Speakers include:

**April 8-10**

*Scholarly Symposium:* "Bosnia and the Balkans: Conflict and Reconstruction."
This major conference, co-sponsored with the Reves Center for International Studies at the College of William and Mary, examines the problem of how a nation beset by years of internal strife, engages in social, political, and legal reconstruction. An array of speakers from around the world will present papers and discuss a variety of issues related to reconstruction, including the prosecution of human rights violations and the protection of religious and political rights. A group of students from the Balkans region will be brought to William and Mary to attend the conference. The keynote address will be delivered by Wesley Clark, NATO Commander for Western Europe. Portions of the proceedings of this conference will be published in the *William and Mary Law Review.* The entire proceedings will be published as a book.
Evan Wolfson, Lambda Legal Defense Fund, Lawyer-in-Residence. Wolfson, who is head of the Marriage Project at the Lambda Legal Defense Fund, will spend two days at the law school meeting with students and faculty in small groups. Wolfson will also participate in a public debate on the issue of gay marriage and will make a public presentation on his organization’s legal campaign for gay marriage.