

UNBLJ FORUM:

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW

EDITORS' PREFACE

Traditionally, the *University of New Brunswick Law Journal* seeks to select a Forum topic that is timely and important, and lends itself to a diverse range of opinions. Recent developments in private international law and the massive worldwide financial crisis have contributed to the creation of just such a topic.

We enjoyed an overwhelming response to this volume's Forum topic and are delighted to offer a wide variety of opinions. This year's forum leads with an article by Professor Catherine Walsh of McGill University based on the Rand Lecture Professor Walsh delivered at the University of New Brunswick on February 4, 2010. Professor Walsh offers an insightful analysis of the principle of party autonomy and its role in the recent financial crisis.

The Forum also includes a number of timely and interesting articles from the academic world about various developments in private international law including international arbitration, the United Nations, parallel actions, genetic resources, the *Access to Medicines Regime*, and international treaties.

This year also brought an interesting development in private international law. The Court of Appeal for Ontario's recent reconsideration of the Supreme Court of Canada's "real and substantial connection" test from *Muscutt v. Courcelles* in *Van Breda v. Village Resorts Ltd.* has been considered by both John P. McEvoy and Stephen Pitel.

In addition to the Forum, we are pleased to publish the thirty-first annual Viscount Bennett Memorial Lecture, delivered by Professor Stephen Clarkson from the University of Toronto. We are pleased to present his lecture, *Globalization's Perilous Imbalance: Constraints for Canada's Governments*, in this edition of the Law Journal.

In addition, this year we are excited to bring back the Student Section of the Law Journal to highlight some of the best student writing from the University of New Brunswick and beyond. This year we are proud to publish Alison Bird's article on legal parenthood and alternative family forms in Canada and Jessica Young's article exploring systematic discrimination against sexual minority refugee claimants.

We hope that Volume 60 of the UNB Law Journal will provide a valuable contribution to ongoing debates and stimulate further discussion.

Fiona Morrison

Dave Steele

Editors-in-Chief, Volume 60