CRIMINAL LAW EXPERTS TEACHING AT COLLEGE

Antony Duff & Sandra Marshall

Two internationally respected scholars in the areas of philosophy of criminal law, politics and morals are sharing their knowledge this semester with students at the College of Law and at Barrett, the Honors College.

Antony Duff, head of the philosophy department at the University of Stirling in Stirling, Scotland, and Sandra Marshall, a professor in and founding member of the philosophy department at the University of Stirling and former president of the UK Association for Legal and Social Philosophy, arrived at Arizona State University in early October to teach seven-week seminars.

Duff is the Merriam Distinguished Professor at the College of Law, where he’s leading six Barrett students in a course titled “The Promise and Peril of Enhancing Our Minds, Our Bodies—And What It Means to Be Human.”

Marshall, a Distinguished Research Professor at the College of Law, is teaching a Project Excellence course, Crimes, Trials and Punishment, which delves into the scope and purpose of criminal law, the criminal trial and criminal punishment, to 14 Barrett students. Project Excellence is a collaboration of the College of Law and Barrett, in which honors students are allowed to take certain law courses.

The arrangement with Duff and Marshall, who have authored numerous books and articles, was made at the suggestion of their longtime friend Jeffrie Murphy, Regents’ Professor of Law, Philosophy & Religious Studies at the College of Law.

“When I found out Sandra and Antony were interested in visiting an American university, I thought it would be enriching to work out something for them here, and our dean (Patricia White) was very supportive,” Murphy said.

“Antony is the most distinguished living person doing the philosophy of criminal law, and I have learned more from interacting with him and reading his research than from anyone else,” Murphy said. “Debra is a real reader among scholars working in moral, political and legal philosophy.”

Marshall said she has enjoyed the interaction with students.

“They bring to class a different range of assumptions, just by their American experiences and by being part of a different legal system,” said Marshall, who was deputy principal (similar to president) of the University of Stirling for 10 years. “I thought it was quite impressive that, 14 of them were interested in taking something extra, and halfway through the semester at that.”

Duff’s students have read manuscripts of his new book and taken turns summarizing the chapters in class, sometimes with faculty members present.

He and Marshall were impressed with the students’ ability and willingness to challenge ideas in an environment some might find intimidating.

The pair said they’ve been welcomed by all corners of both colleges, from Lexi Notice, who helped Marshall stay organized at Barrett, to Allan Crouch, who gave them lifts on the law-school’s motorized carts, to Suzanne Morris, who helped with a few paperwork tasks, to Jan Spence in Debra White’s office.

To read the full story, go to law.asu.edu.

LAW COURSES ATTRACTING BARRETT STUDENTS

A select group of ASU students will choose next semester from a menu of courses that includes Nanotechnology and the Law, Ethics of Punishment, Criminal Procedure, and Sexual Orientation and the Law.

And they’re not even law students. Not yet.

The students, all enrolled in Barrett, The Honors College, can take courses at the College of Law through Project Excellence, a partnership between the two colleges.

The program was established four years ago and has since recruited about 120 participants. It’s open to Barrett juniors and seniors in good standing (3.25 GPA), who’ve completed a year-long honors seminar. Project Excellence students must attend law school.

Usually, from 20 to 25 Barrett students take law courses in any given semester. This spring semester, when 11 Project Excellence courses will be offered, is planned for Jan. 31, with a make-up orientation on Jan. 15.

What’s new for 2007-08 is that Project Excellence now has a dedicated staff person, Tom Williams, the College of Law’s Director of Student Development.

He’s adding structure, expanding the course list and urging more Barrett students to give law school a look.

“I don’t know of any project like this at any other university in the country,” said Williams, a 2007 alum. “From the law school point of view, many of our law professors like to hear a different voice, a different mindset, from students in their classes, and this gives them that chance. From the Barrett point of view, this is an opportunity for their students to learn what a law-school class is like, to receive a good challenge and to have an advantage when they do come to law school.”

The students receive honors credit, but are not graded on the curve, as are law students. Project Excellence students also choose to receive regular grades or pass/fail.

Terry Crist, a first-year law student and former Barrett student, took three Project Excellence courses as an undergraduate—Federal Courts, Philosophical Foundation of Natural Law, and Constitutional Liberty. That helped Crist figure out that he really did want to attend law school, and it helped him prepare for the real thing.

“It gave me a little bit of a leg up those first few weeks when everybody else (first-year students) is opening the book for the first time, and it was so not stressful for me,” said Crist, who earned a political science degree from ASU law school.

Crist noted that he felt welcomed by both law faculty and students. “I was a little worried when I started, afraid of talking out of turn or saying something stupid, of being looked down on because ‘Are you supposed to be here?’” he said. “But I found everyone friendly, and I even got tips for applying to law school.”

To read the full story, go to law.asu.edu.

DEAN SEARCH COMMITTEE GATHERS NAMES

Arizona State University is conducting a national search for a dean for the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law to replace Patricia White, who is returning to teaching after 9½ years as dean.

The committee, chaired by Debra Friedman, dean of the College of Public Programs at ASU, is presently gathering names for consideration. Dean Friedman has met with faculty and senior staff from the College of Law, and will continue to meet with them throughout the search process. The committee will submit its final recommendations for candidates to be brought to campus for interviews to ASU President Michael Crow and Provost Elizabeth Capaldi, who hope to have a new dean in place for the 2008-2009 academic year.

Friedman said the committee is looking for candidates with outstanding legal intellect and demonstrated administrative experience.

While much of the work of the committee must remain confidential, Friedman said she welcomes suggestions for candidates and invites comments and questions. She can be contacted at debra.friedman@asu.edu.

Other members of the committee have been instructed not to discuss any aspect of the search.

Terence Whately, a law student on the committee, has established a blog, https://lawsearchresearchblog.asu.edu, to collect comments and suggestions.

The search committee includes the following members:

• Kenneth Abbott, professor of Law and Willard H. Pedrick Distinguished Research Scholar, College of Law, and professor of global studies, School of Global Studies.

• Scott Bates, justice, Arizona Supreme Court.

• Art Blakeney, chairman, Department of Economics, senior vice provost.

• José Cárdenas, partner, Lewis & Roza.

• Gary Marchant, professor of law, executive director and faculty fellow, Center for the Study of Law, Science, & Technology, and Lincoln Professor of Emerging Technologies, Law & Ethics, College of Law.

• Joan McGregor, director, Bioethics, Policy, and Law Program in the Center for Biology and Society, School of Life Sciences.

• Robert Mittelstaedt, dean, W.P. Carey School of Business.

• Meenakshi Wadhwa, director, Center for Meteorite Studies, School of Earth and Space Exploration.

• Rebecca Tosoie, professor of law, College of Law.

• Mary Sigler, professor of law, College of Law.

• Terence Whately, student, College of Law.

• Scott Bales, justice, Arizona Supreme Court.

• Matthew Stump, associate professor of law and director, Legal Method & Writing Program, College of Law.

• Douglas Sylvester, professor of law and faculty fellow, Center for the Study of Law, Science, & Technology, College of Law.

• Judy Stimson, professor of law and director, Legal Method & Writing Program, College of Law.

• Rebecca Tosoie, professor of law, College of Law.

• Meenakshi Wadhwa, director, Center for Meteorite Studies, School of Earth and Space Exploration.

• Terence Whately, student, College of Law.

RATIONAL EVOLUTION

Joel Garreau, an author and journalist at The Washington Post, will deliver the seventh annual Hogan & Harston Jurimetrics Lecture at 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 5, in the Great Hall.

Garreau’s intriguing topic is “Rational Evolution: The Law of Unintended Consequences,” which explores the social and technological changes that altered our environment to technology that is altering our environment.

Garreau will answer questions after his talk, followed by a reception in the Rotunda. He also will sign copies of his book, Rational Evolution: The Promise and Peril of Enhancing Our Minds, Our Bodies—And What It Means to Be Human.
EVENT BRINGS TOGETHER STUDENTS, SMALL FIRMS

More than 100 law students and attorneys from more than 40 firms recently participated in Small Firm Week, a series of events organized by the Career Services Office of the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law.

“Many small firms don’t have the time or resources to spend on large-scale recruiting by the students. They also gave them a chance to recruit top-tier students, simply because those students will be more likely to apply to a firm with whom they’ve had some personal experience.”

The event, which included sessions on networking and how to get a job with a small firm. There was a speed-networking event, similar to speed-dating, and a career fair that included lawyers representing 30 different practice areas, from administrative law to white-collar crime.

According to the Career Services Office, 57 percent of the 2006 graduates from the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law entered private practice and 24 percent of those with small to mid-size firms. For many law students eager to have a job before graduation, the small-firm job search can be frustrating, said Williams, of the Career Services Office.

Large firms do on-campus interviews and hire up to a year or more in advance, but small firms usually can’t predict when they will need someone and hire weeks or months before they pass the bar. They rarely advertise and don’t have a formal recruitment schedule. And they mostly rely on word-of-mouth to find applicants.

De la Vara, a third-year law student, said the small-firm events made her less anxious about her career.

“While I learned that there’s no one right way to do a legal career,” Butler said “that helped set the stage.”

She said the career fair gave students a chance to ask lots of questions, and attorneys offered resume tips, interview tips and even a list of things students should do while still in law school.

“It gave us a better comfort level talking to attorneys,” she said. “They love talking about what they do.”

Williams said the College of Law is always looking for ways to work with small firms, have them visit the campus and meet students or offer a brown-bag session on their area of law. For more information, contact Williams at (480) 727-7092 or samantha.c.williams@asu.edu.

To read the full story, go to www.law.asu.edu.

YUMA PROVES TO BE LEGAL MECCA FOR STUDENTS

Law students from the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law are forming a legacy of summer experiences in Yuma, a “legal triad” or “law center” in what is frequently listed as the third-largest country, all thanks to the efforts of Jose Angel de la Varra, the Yuma County Legal Defender.

De la Varra started hiring interns in 2005, the public defender and the county attorney both wanted interns, and the courts wanted law clerks. They hired 10 law students, most from ASU.

“De la Varra’s office was a destination for students. Law students from the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law are forming a legacy of summer experiences in Yuma.”

They did everything except represent people in court, de la Varra said. “They participate in interviews with clients, witnesses, experts. They sit at the counsel table and assist the attorneys. They’re involved in negotiations. The first year, the first week, they were involved in two murder cases.”

Students worked on murder cases and got to see the work incorporated into my pleadings,” de la Varra said. “The College of Law also schedules visits with different state agencies, a tour of the jail and the courthouse. This year, we took the Yuma Sheriff’s Department and 20 more students on a tour of the jail and courthouse.”

The Jenckes Cup is back where it belongs, at the College of Law, following the 2006 Arizona win for the Arizona State University College of Law’s Moot Court Team.

The Jenckes Cup is a traveling trophy that is awarded to the winner of the National Moot Court competition. This year’s competition will be held at the College of Law.

Next semester, the Moot Court Executive Board will host a Summary Judgment Competition and the superbucc Close Argument Competition.

JENA 6 CASE EXPLAINED

Learn the facts of the Jena 6 case, in which six black teenagers were charged with beating a white student in Jena, La., at a seminar on Tuesday, Nov. 20.

Thomas Tucker Evans, an attorney who practices in the areas of white-collar crime and commercial litigation at Greenberg Traurig, will speak from 12:15-1:15 p.m. in Room 118. For details, e-mail Emily White atasu.edu.

GOVERNOR SPEAKS AT DEAN’S SESSION

Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano spoke to the Dean’s Session this week, sharing her experiences as a law student at the University of Virginia School of Law, clerk for Justice Marshall for the Supreme Court of Appeals and as an attorney for Anita Hill during the Clarence Thomas confirmation hearings.

Napolitano told students about moving to Arizona in 1983, thinking she would stay only one year, but deciding she had the great potential for her, personally and professionally. She was appointed U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona in 1993, and was involved in the investigation of Michael Furtor with the FBI.

She said she was elected governor in 2002 and re-elected in 2006. She encouraged students to enjoy their time in law school and consider building their lives and careers in Arizona.

FACULTY NEWS

Professor Jeffrie Murphy was recently listed in Brian Leiter’s “Law School Reports,” "Top 10” most cited list for “Law and Philosophy. Murphy, listed at No. 10, had 370 citations since 2000. She is a senior fellow with the Securities Capital Study Impact for 2007.

Professor Carissa Byrne Henrotin recently spoke to the faculty at the College of Law in Harriburg, Pa., on Nov. 5. She talked about "Considering Good and Bad Acts at Sentencing," the title of a paper she is writing for publication.

PASS THE BAR!

Rebecca Flanagan, director of the Academic Support Program, announced that the College of Law has purchased copies of the handbook, Pass the Bar! by Denise Riche and Michael Hunter Schwartz, for each graduating J.D. The book includes monthly mock checklists of what students need to do each year to pass the bar in any state. Many of the tips provided in the book are things most bar takers would never think of; finding a hotel for the bar exam that is not hosting a bachelor’s/ette party the same weekend, finding places to eat at the exam site, etc. The book also includes invaluable resources on finding published bar questions, state bar examiners, and the predominant bar prep programs for each state. Copies are now available in Room 269.