WFU SCHOOL OF LAW INITIATES S.J.D. PROGRAM

In October of 2008, the American Bar Association granted acquiescence to Wake Forest University’s request to initiate an S.J.D. (Scientiae Juridicae Doctor) Program at the School of Law. The S.J.D. will be the highest post graduate law degree offered by the Wake Forest University School of Law, which plans to admit its first S.J.D. students in January of 2009.

The S.J.D. degree is designed for scholars and teachers of law and is most often obtained by international attorneys who are pursuing academic or high ranking governmental careers in their home countries. The S.J.D. is not a course-oriented degree but rather is directed towards scholarly research and producing a dissertation of publishable quality that contributes in an original manner to the area of law to which it is directed.

S.J.D. admissions at Wake Forest University will be highly selective. S.J.D. applicants must have completed an LL.M. (Master of Laws) program at Wake Forest or elsewhere in the United States to be eligible for the program. Wake Forest LL.M. graduates will be given preference in general over applicants from other LL.M. programs. Only applicants with exceptionally strong academic credentials, well-planned dissertation proposals, and proficient English language ability are admitted.

More information about the S.J.D. program can be found at http://law.wfu.edu/sjd.

LL.M.S PARTICIPATE IN CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

On February 2, 2008, WFU’s Chinese LL.M.s from the class of 2008 hosted a Chinese New Year Celebration for the Law School community. As QINGLAN BAI described, the Chinese New Year is the most important of the traditional Chinese holidays and “announces that the Spring season is [around] the corner.” At the Chinese New Year celebration, LL.M. students, along with the WFU Chinese Students & Scholars Association, served a Chinese dinner and performed in a Chinese celebration. The event was attended by faculty and staff members, J.D. and LL.M. students, and members of the Winston-Salem community.

Qinglan Bai, Shuya Wang, and Lu Zhang perform a traditional dance at the Chinese New Year Celebration.
The LL.M. Class of 2009
The 2008-2009 LL.M. students hail from seven countries and have already proven to be an impressive group of attorneys.

Mr. Wenjie “Will” Li
Beijing, China
Mr. Li graduated from Peking University with a LL.B. degree. He has been a member of the All-China Bar Association since 1999 and has been an attorney for over ten years. His legal career has included working in the Beijing branch of Shinmin Law Firm, where he practices in the areas of litigation and alternative dispute resolution. Mr. Li has managed disputes related to banking, corporate governance, contracts, insolvency, libel and employment matters and negotiated complex and multinational contracts. He has also represented clients before the People’s Higher Court, People’s Intermediate Courts, and the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission. Prior to this position, Mr. Li was a Lawyer at the Hao Tian Law Firm, one of the oldest private law firms in China, where he represented clients in intellectual property matters and provided counsel to many multinational corporations including Coca-Cola China, Motorola China, Cisco System (China) Co., Ltd., and Sina.com.

Mr. Bader Al Ghanem
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Mr. Al Ghanem is a Legal Researcher for the Bureau of Experts of the Council of Ministers of Saudi Arabia, where he works in international law, legislation, resolutions and royal decrees. He has also worked for the International Agreements and Foreign Affairs Committee of the Bureau of Experts. He received a Bachelor of Law degree from King Saud University and a law practice diploma from the Riyadh Chamber of Commerce & Industry. He has studied English at Auckland Edinburgh College in New Zealand, the Institute of Public Administration in Riyadh, and the University of Delaware. Mr. Al Ghanem is beginning his second year of studies in the LL.M. Program at WFU School of Law.

Mr. Anass Shaban
Jerusalem, West Bank
Mr. Shaban is coming to Wake Forest as a Palestinian Rule of Law fellow and a graduate of the law program at the University of Mohammed I in Morocco. Mr. Shaban currently operates his own private practice in Jerusalem and Ramallah. He passed the Israeli Bar in 2005, giving him the ability to practice in both Palestine and Israel. Mr. Shaban is heavily involved in doing pro bono and for profit legal work to help residents of predominantly Arab East Jerusalem fight home evictions, dispute tax issues, and demand municipal services equal to those in West Jerusalem. Mr. Shaban is specifically interested in financial law, commercial law, and intellectual property, which he believes is undeveloped in Palestine. Mr. Shaban’s professional goal is to become a professor of law while also maintaining his private practice.

Mr. Hao Wang
Beijing, China
Mr. Wang has earned a law degree from Tsinghua University. Upon graduation, he worked as an Instructor at the Continuing Education School of Tsinghua University, where he was responsible for teaching criminal law and for creating new curricula. Mr. Wang has interned at several courts in China, including the Shandong Weihai Intermediate People’s Court, the Beijing Xicheng District People’s Procuratorate, and the Shandong Leling People’s Procuratorate. In these internships, Mr. Wang wrote legal documents, participated in suspect interrogations and case discussions, and compiled relevant documents. Mr. Wang has also worked in the Legal Aid Center at his University and was active in the School Table Tennis Association, the School Traffic Management Association, and the Student Public Relations Association.

Mr. Martin Rinscheid
Frankfurt, Germany
Mr. Rinscheid completed his legal studies at the University of Mainz and passed the First State Examination in Germany. During his legal studies, Mr. Rinscheid attended the University of Paris XII – Val de Marne for one year through the Integrated German-French Study Program with the University of Mainz. He also tutored students in Constitutional Law. Mr. Rinscheid has completed two internships in the office of Lechler & Bernady in Paris, where he focused on product liability law. He has also interned in the law office of Dr. Michael & Siebert, where he worked in intellectual property law. He decided to pursue a LL.M. degree in America to perfect his knowledge of English, to compare the civil law system of Europe and the common law system of the U.S., and to qualify for jobs in the German legal system where contracts, disputes, and partnerships between European and American individuals and companies increasingly arise. Mr. Rinscheid has joined the volunteer Guardian ad Litem program in which he represents children’s interests to the court in neglect and abuse cases.
Mr. Heeyoon “Danny” Choi

Mr. Choi recently received a Bachelor of Law degree from Sungkyunkwan University, one of the top law schools in Korea. Mr. Choi lived in the U.S. for an extended period of time as a child and, consequently, is familiar with American society and culture. In 2000, he earned first place in the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization’s (UNESCO) Youth English Speech Contest. While here at Wake Forest University School of Law, Mr. Choi plans to focus on sports law. Korea’s professional sports are relatively young compared to those in the U.S., and Mr. Choi believes that studying sports law in America will help him achieve his professional goal to work in the field when he returns to Korea.

Ms. Ruilu Wang

Ms. Wang received a LL.B. from Zhejiang University. She was the recipient of a scholarship, which allowed her to attend the International Outreach Program at the University of Washington in the summer of 2007. Ms. Wang audited law courses at the University of Washington and found the U.S. education system interesting. Ms. Wang has completed two internships in China. The first was with the Supreme People’s Court of Hebei Province in Shijiazhuhai. The second internship was with Zhejiang Zeda Law Firm, where she assisted an expert in intellectual property law with investigating cases, finding evidence, conducting notarization, and writing defense manuscripts and closing statements. During her LL.M. studies, Ms. Wang plans to focus on intellectual property law, which she explains is underdeveloped in China. She plans to return to her home country to work as a lawyer and to contribute to the development of China’s intellectual property law system.

Mr. Suthi Iamcharernying

Mr. Iamcharernying received his LL.B. from Assumption University and qualified to be a Thai Barrister-at-Law. He has been a member of the Thai jurisdiction since June of 2006. Mr. Iamcharernying’s legal experience includes interning as a paralegal with Chuan and Associates Law Office in Bangkok and serving as a trainee in the International Legal Counselors Thailand Limited. Mr. Iamcharernying earned a LL.M. degree at Valparaiso University School of Law. He has come to Wake Forest to earn a second LL.M. degree as two years of post-graduate legal study are required in Thailand to become a judge or prosecutor. Mr. Iamcharernying’s career goal is to be a law professor at Assumption University, his alma mater. He plans to specialize in international trade law and security law.

Ms. Namei Wang

Ms. Wang graduated with a LL.B. from Tsinghua University. She began her studies as an Environmental Science and Engineering major, but later changed her focus to law. She remains devoted to improving the environment. Along with working at her University’s Legal Aid Clinic, Ms. Wang was the Vice Chairman of the Student Green Association. Ms. Wang has worked in the international business department at Beijing De Heng Law Firm and interned in the People’s Prosecutor Service of Western Beijing and the People’s Court in Urumqi Municipality. Ms. Wang has completed several research projects comparing legal systems from around the world. Her papers have included “Research on Enterprise Income Tax Anti-Avoidance System – Taking China and Korea for Example” and “Examination on the Management in America and China with respect to the Integration and Purchase by Foreign Capital.”

Mr. Bakhytzhan “Baha” Kussainov

Mr. Kussainov is a Muskie Foundation Scholar and has been an attorney with “Urickoe MTS Ltd.” in Kazakhstan since 2007. His duties include conducting interviews with clients, presenting his clients’ interests in court, and registering professional and business documentation. Before graduating with a LL.B. from Kostanay State University, Mr. Kussainov earned a first diploma in law and a Certificate in Management from Sarykol College. Mr. Kussainov is interested in studying international and commercial law in the U.S. After earning a LL.M., Mr. Kussainov hopes to work with the World Trade Organization and integrate Kazakhstan into the international legal scene. He also intends to pursue his legal studies by earning a Ph.D. in law. His ultimate career goal is to become a lawyer in a national company or a leading specialist in an organization involved in international commerce.

Mr. Abdullah Alshehry

Mr. Alshehry is an Assistant Instructor in the Department of Legal Studies at the Institute of Public Administration in Riyadh, where he conducts extensive legal research and renders legal advice to the public sector and government agencies. He graduated from King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah with a Bachelor of Law degree. While in school, Mr. Alshehry was involved in the Chief Law Club at his University. During his studies at Wake Forest, Mr. Alshehry has focused on commercial and business law.
Recent News from our LL.M. Alumni

HANNE NYHEIM (Norway, 2007) has joined Simonsen Advokatfirma, one of the largest business law firms in Norway, as an Associate in the Offshore, Shipping, and Energy Group. Congratulations on Hanne’s recent engagement to Tom McNutt (J.D., 2008), whom she met while studying at WFU! They plan to marry in August of 2009.

HIROSHI KISHIMOTO (Japan, 2005) was promoted to Manager of the Legal Department at Sumitomo Chemical Company in Tokyo. One of his new responsibilities is to train and supervise new staff members.

YOUNG-SOO CHANG (Korea, 2004), Senior Manager of the International Securities Transaction Department of Korea Securities Depository, has joined the Master of Laws (LL.M.) Program in Securities and Financial Regulation at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Young-So plans to take courses in Corporate Governance and Securities Regulations.

XIAOTING “SOPHIE” PAN (China, 2008) is currently living in Los Angeles and working as a Paralegal in the Law Offices of Michael I. Brooks.

JAHANZEB ALI (Pakistan, 2001) reports that he is now the proprietor of a cement transport fleet in Pakistan.

HYO AHN “JOHN” SUNG (Korea, 2001) is a Representative Director of IntelligenceLink Corporation, an international consulting firm in Seoul.

HIROSHI KISHIMOTO (Japan, 2005) was promoted to Manager of the Legal Department at Sumitomo Chemical Company in Tokyo. One of his new responsibilities is to train and supervise new staff members.

YOUNG-SOO CHANG (Korea, 2004), Senior Manager of the International Securities Transaction Department of Korea Securities Depository, has joined the Master of Laws (LL.M.) Program in Securities and Financial Regulation at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Young-So plans to take courses in Corporate Governance and Securities Regulations.

Congratulations to SHUYA WANG (China, 2008) for passing the NY State Bar Exam! She is currently working as a Law Clerk at Gilberti Stinziano Heintz & Smith, P.C. in Albany, New York.

AMMAR JASTANIAH (Saudi Arabia, 2004) is an attorney at AAJ Law Firm in Jeddah. He has also established Executives for Training, a consulting firm for professional and executive training programs in the fields of law, finance, economics, accounting, insurance, and management skills development. Congratulations to Ammar and his wife, Amal Alahmadi, on the birth of their son, Yassier.

YOSHIHIRO SAKAMOTO (Japan, 2008) interned at Schiff Harden LLP in New York City after graduation and began a second internship in November at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP before returning to his position in the Legal Department of Kuraray Co., Ltd. in Tokyo.

AYCA KONURALP (Turkey, 2006) is an Attorney at Değirmenci Hukuk Bürosu in Turkey. Ayca currently sings in two choirs in Zmir and writes that she feels “very happy and confident” in the concerts.
ABDULLAH ALSHEHRY (Saudi Arabia, 2008) and his wife, Suad AlGhamdi, welcomed their first child to the family on May 9, 2008. They had a son and named him Rakan.

TETYANA BUDYAKOVA (Ukraine, 2008) has finished an internship with the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX) and has begun another internship at Colgate Global Legal Organization in New York City. After completing this internship, Tanya will return to Ukraine to work as an Associate in CMS Cameron McKenna in Kyiv.

WEI “JOY” HUANG (China, 2002) has joined Otis Elevator (China) Ltd., the world’s leading elevator company, as Legal Counsel.

ANASTASIA BASTIAN (Bahamas, 2007) returned to Wake Forest in May to attend the law school graduation and visit her J.D. and LL.M. friends. She continues to enjoy her work as an Associate at Graham, Thompson & Co. in Nassau.

HIDEYUKI KOHATA (Japan, 2005) has been promoted to Director and is currently managing a subsidiary company of Nippon Electric Glass in Malaysia. Hideyuki is responsible for the Human Resources, Administration, Finance, and Purchase divisions of the subsidiary company of Nippon, which is one of the world’s leading manufacturers of technical glass.

MANUEL MOCTEZUMA (Mexico, 2004) is a Senior Associate at Gonzalez Calvillo, S.C. in Mexico City, where he is currently handling aviation and corporate transactional issues. Manuel, PAULA LINA CASTRO (Mexico, 2004), and their son, Santiago, continue to do well in Mexico City.

After spending her summer in Albany to prepare for the New York State Bar Exam, MENGFEI YU (China, 2008) began working as a Paralegal at Fengling Liu Attorney at Law in New York City. Mengfei is working with torts and immigration law and reports that she is enjoying her job and life in NYC.

FAISAL ALLAZZAM (Saudi Arabia, 2000) is managing the Allazzam Law Office in Riyadh.

TOMOKO NAKAJIMA (Japan, 2003) is a Partner at Cermak, Kenealy, Vaidya & Nakajima LLP in Alexandria, Virginia. This is an intellectual property law firm where she works in trademarks, patent and design patent law.

ANGELO BAGNAROSA (France, 2004) has joined “La Mondiale-AG2R,” a French insurance company, in a team management position. Congratulations to Angelo on his marriage to Olivia in 2007!

KARISMA PERWROI (Indonesia, 2006) has joined Soewito Suhardiman Eddyasury Kardono (SSEK) Indonesian Legal Consultants in Jakarta as an Associate. Kharsima’s practice areas are general corporate law and investment law.

YINGJUN WANG (China, 2008) interned in the Hong Kong office of Troutman Sanders LLP during the summer of 2008, where she researched taxation policy of foreign company investment in China.

KAZUYA SHIKI (Japan, 2005) is the Manager of the Legal Department and Manager of the Internal Control Office at Mitsui Mining and Smelting Co. in Tokyo. Kazuya has been involved in legal work with the company’s U.S. and European subsidiaries since graduating from WFU.

BING CHEN (China, 2004), formerly a maritime judge, has joined the law firm of Wang Jing & Co. in Shanghai.

RAWI NIRUNDORN (Thailand, 2008) is an Attorney at Thanachart Legal and Appraisal Company Limited.

KENICHI KUNIKANE (Japan, 2006) has been promoted to Manager of the Risk Control & Contract Administration section in the International Division of Taisei Corporation in Tokyo.

ZIYI MU (China, 2008) is currently pursuing a Doctor of Juridical Science (JSD) degree at City University of Hong Kong.

MARIYA ORLYK (Ukraine, 2006) was admitted to the Ukrainian School of Political Studies, which is administered by the Council of Europe and intended to form a new political elite in Ukraine. With very competitive admissions, the student body includes mayors, journalists, businessmen, legal practitioners, and political party representatives. Mariya recently visited Robert Rzeszut in Vienna, who was an exchange student in the MBA School.

AMEED ANANI (Palestine, 2007) has been very busy since graduating from WFU. While returning to his position as Deputy Director of the Legal Department at Cairo Amman Bank, Ameed is a part-time lecturer in the Law Department of Birzeit University and has founded and become a Senior Partner of Ittqan Consulting Services in Ramallah with fellow LL.M. alumnus, MUHANAD ASSAF (Palestine, 2006).

XINYI “SUNNY” WU (China, 2001) is the Legal and Commercial Manager of MAN Turbo Trading (Shanghai) Co. Ltd., a leading original equipment manufacturer of turbo machinery.

JUN FURUTA (Japan, 2005) has taken a new position as Associate Manager in the Alternative Investment Department of DAIKO LIFE Insurance Company in Tokyo. He and CHI TAN (Taiwan, 2005) returned to WFU in May to visit the Law School and had dinner with Dean Montaquila and Professor Gilreath.
Upon graduation in May, LU ZHANG (China, 2008) joined King & Wood’s Beijing office, where she worked as a legal intern before coming to WFU. Lu took the Chinese Bar Examination in September, which is required to practice law in China.

XIAOCHUN “SHARRON” CHEN (China, 2008) is performing her optional practical training with Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice in Winston-Salem. Sharron is assisting the firm develop its China practice initiative and plans to work there through December. Sharron is the first LL.M. student to be hired as an intern at Womble Carlyle!

JENNIFER KALCEVIC (Germany, 2005) is working part-time in the corporate finance and litigation areas of CMS Hasche Sigle, a law firm in Cologne, Germany. Jenna is also working on her trainee qualifications as a lawyer in Dusseldorf. Despite her busy schedule, she still finds time to stay in touch with her WFU colleagues. SIWAN JONES (United Kingdom, 2006), SA-CHIYO NISHIE (Japan, 2006), and MARIYA ORLYK (Ukraine, 2006) visited Jenna in Dusseldorf in October.

The LL.M.s pose by the Rhine River.

YORIKO SAKAI (Japan, 2002) has earned a second LL.M. degree in Intellectual Property from Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University. She is now studying for the New York State Bar Examination.

Janet Malliott, a former WFU Law Librarian, travelled to Japan and visited LL.M. alumni.

KATSUO YAMAURA (Japan, 2006), SACHIYO NISHIE (Japan, 2006), YURIKA OKUMURA (Japan, 2007), KENICHI KUNIKANE (Japan, 2006), FUSAKO KIRINUKI (Japan, 2005), HIROSHI KISHIMOTO (Japan, 2005), CHITAN (Taiwan, 2006), JUN FURUTA (Japan, 2006), and KAZUYA SHIKI (Japan, 2005) met Janet for dinner in Tokyo.

YOSHIKAWA SATOSHI (Japan, 2004) is pursuing a J.D. degree at Kyoto University where Japan has recently established a new professional law school based on the U.S. law school system.

CHEN FAN FU (China, 2007), who has been working as a Paralegal at Kilpatrick Stockton in Winston-Salem for over a year, returned to WFU School of Law as a J.D. student in August.

ANNE FRITZLER (Germany, 2003) married Joerg Abel on August 23, 2008 in Coesfeld, Germany. WEIBKE HOLSAPPEL (Germany, 2003) attended the wedding. Congratulations to the newlyweds!

ANCHALEE TWEESAN (Thailand, 2008) has returned to her position as Official Receiver in the Legal Execution Department of the Ministry of Justice of Thailand.

MAJED ALARIFE (Saudi Arabia, 2008) was very busy after graduating from Wake Law. He volunteered at the Legal Aid of North Carolina office in Winston-Salem and interned under Judge Ed Wilson in Greensboro.

After graduation, JUDITH HAENSEL (Germany, 2008) began a summer internship in the New York office of Alston & Bird. While in New York, Judy visited the set of the television show Law & Order – Special Victims Unit and met actors Mariska Hargitay (left) and Christopher Meloni (right)! Judy returned to WFU as a J.D. student in August.

YOUSSIF NASRALLAH (Palestine, 2006) and his family moved to Virginia after he accepted the position as a Rule of Law Contractor for the U.S. Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C.
In March of 2008, the WFU Women in Law and International Law Society sponsored a presentation on International Women of Law in which four LL.M. students discussed their experiences as female law students and lawyers in their home countries. Judith Haensel from Germany, Tetyana Budyakova from Ukraine, Shuya Wang from China, and Corine Sickout from France addressed issues such as how law schools and the practice of law in their home countries differ from those in the U.S. and fielded questions about maternity leave for lawyers in their home countries, gender discrimination in the law field, and the benefit of earning a LL.M. degree in the United States. Corine Sickout, who described her pursuit of a LL.M. degree at Wake Forest as “a huge and valuable experience,” stated that because “English is everywhere” in France, she was compelled to study in the U.S. to make herself more competitive in France’s legal market. Ms. Haensel added that earning a LL.M. degree helps foreign attorneys understand cultural differences between the U.S. and their home countries, noting that she would approach a U.S. client very differently than a German client. Shuya Wang expounded on Ms. Haensel’s cultural observation, noting that U.S. lawyers tend to be more straightforward with their clients, while it is considered an insult to be so candid with Chinese clients. Ms. Wang explained that the confidence she received from studying American law and improving her English in the U.S. will put her more at ease when communicating with clients and partners in the future. Finally, Tetyana Budyakova explained that a LL.M. degree makes her more competitive in the Ukrainian legal field. Ms. Budyakova described law as one of the few “money-making careers” in Ukraine, which created “too many lawyers” in her country. As a result, a LL.M. degree was one of the best ways that she could distinguish herself and would help her find a prosperous position with an international law firm in Ukraine.

The presentation enlightened American J.D. students not only on the obstacles that female law students and attorneys face around the world, but also on the motives of their international peers in pursuing a graduate degree at WFU School of Law.

In spring of 2008, Kilpatrick Stockton LLP, a law firm with over 450 employees in the U.S. and Europe, hosted a lunch for our LL.M.s. Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, Kilpatrick Stockton has an office in Winston-Salem, and its attorneys were interested in meeting WFU’s LL.M.s. In addition to lunch, students enjoyed the opportunity to meet members of the firm and hear a presentation about international transactions from in-house attorneys from Hanesbrands, Inc., one of Kilpatrick Stockton’s clients. The event was a valuable opportunity for the LL.M.s to observe the workings of a U.S. law firm.
**LL.M. students visit Williams Mullen Law Firm in Raleigh**

In March of 2008, LL.M. students visited Williams Mullen law firm and Research Triangle Park (RTP) near Raleigh, NC. Invited by Mr. Mark Thomas, a Partner in the firm and a WFU J.D. alumnus, the LL.M. students met attorneys in the RTP office and other offices around the country. Williams Mullen is one of the largest law firms in the Southeast, with offices in North Carolina, Virginia, Washington D.C., and London. The law firm provides legal advice in areas such as labor and employment, corporate finance and securities, litigation, tax, government relations and more for clients in industries such as financial services, health care, transportation, technology, insurance, and real estate and development.

The students observed a U.S. law firm in action and were allowed to see some of the private offices and conference rooms. After lunch with the host attorneys, the students listened to presentations by Tina Val Ducanas, Vice President of the RTP Park Foundation, and Mr. Ted Abernathy, the Chief Operating Officer of the RTP Partnership. Dean Barclay, an attorney in the International Section of Williams Mullen, gave an interesting presentation on the various aspects of international trade law projects conducted out of the firm’s Washington D.C. office. The trip was concluded by taking a bus tour around Research Triangle Park during which the students could see the actual companies and industries that Williams Mullen attorneys work with every day.

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**The LL.M. Class of 2008**

Left: LL.Ms. pose for pictures before graduation.

Above: Hussein Abu El Hawa (Palestine) and Xiaoyong Yue (China) enjoy the LL.M. Graduation Dinner with Kent Greer of WFU’s Center for International Studies.

Above: Judith Haensel (Germany) and Tetyana Budyakova (Ukraine).

Above: Yen-Hsin Chang (Taiwan) explores the annual Dixie Classic Fair.

Right: Anchalee Tweesan (Thailand) and Rawi Nirundorn (Thailand).