

For Immediate Release
February 16, 2009

Loyola Law School to Host “Litigating Genocide: When, Where and How”

LOS ANGELES – Loyola Law School will host the symposium "Litigating Genocide: When, Where and How" on Friday, Feb. 27 from 10 am-4:45 pm on Loyola's downtown LA campus. The symposium, hosted by the *Loyola of Los Angeles International and Comparative Law Review* and Loyola's Center for the Study of Law & Genocide, and sponsored by Geragos & Geragos LLP, will focus on case studies in the Armenian genocide and other historic human rights violations.

“This symposium is vital because genocide proved to be the true plague of the 20th century and appears, tragically, to be on the verge of continuing to infect the 21st,” said Professor Stan Goldman, director of the Center for the Study of Law & Genocide. “At least the possibility of settlement and the consequent saving of lives in Darfur may in part be a product of the world’s awareness and pressure brought to bear. It is such awareness that this symposium is intended to encourage.”

The program will present three panels and a luncheon with keynote speaker Dr. Gregory Stanton, president of Genocide Watch the International Association of Genocide Scholars.

Agenda

10:00-11:30 am: Panel I - Litigating History

Professor Cesare Romano, moderator

Richard Falk

Herbert Reginbogin

Harut Sassounian

Topic: The ethical, philosophical and moral issues of litigating distant historic mass violations of human rights.

1:30-3:00 pm: Panel II – Foreign Relations Law and Its Implications for Genocide

Professor David Glazier (moderator)

Professor Michael Ramsey

Topic: Legal issues that may arise when litigating mass violations of human rights which were committed abroad and generations ago.

11:45 am-1:15 pm: Luncheon Address - The Preventative Approach to Genocide Acts

Dr. Gregory Stanton

Topic: The measures that can and should be taken to identify and avert potential genocide at its early stages of development. This preventative approach contrasts with the current remedial approach to crimes of genocide.

3:15-4:45 pm: Panel III – Litigating in the Courts

Barry Fisher

Brian S. Kabateck

Anne Richardson

Topic: The practical issues confronting lawyers who wish to litigate historical cases involving historic mass human rights violations.

About the Center for the Study of Law & Genocide

Loyola's Center for the Study of Law & Genocide was created to focus on legal scholarship on genocide and mass violations of human rights with a particular focus on improving and making more accessible and effective legal resources and remedies. It will also work to train current and future legal practitioners on using existing remedies, domestic and international, to help victims of genocide and mass violations of human rights achieve a measure of justice.

The center will feature regular symposia and will include an academic chair on genocide law and policy, support for internships with institutions engaged in litigation on these matters and the establishment of a genocide and mass atrocities law clinic.

The Armenian General Benevolent Union donated \$350,000 to Loyola Law School's Center for the Study of Law & Genocide. The funding comes from a settlement alumnus Berj Boyajian '74 secured with an insurance company for its role in unpaid life insurance benefits in the wake of the Armenian genocide from 1915-1919. Previously, alumni Mark J. Geragos '82, Brian S. Kabateck '89, Vartkes B. Yeghiayan and Boyajian presented Loyola with \$100,000 from the Armenian Insurance Settlement Fund. That donation drew on funds from a similar \$20 million settlement they helped secure against New York Life Insurance Co.

About Loyola Law School

Located in downtown Los Angeles—a legal, financial and media capital—Loyola Law School is home to prominent faculty, dedicated students and cutting-edge programs. Committed to legal ethics and the public interest, Loyola Law School has produced top attorneys for nearly a century. For expert commentary or for media attendance to Loyola events, please contact Brian Costello, deputy director of communications, at 213.736.1444 or brian.costello@lls.edu. For more information on Loyola Law School, please visit www.lls.edu.

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