

SYMPOSIUM

TRANSATLANTIC PERSPECTIVES ON ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

INTRODUCTION

DAVID L. GREGORY[†] & FRANCIS A. CAVANAGH^{††}

On July 26, 2006, the historic and majestic Old Hall of Lincoln's Inn was the site of the opening reception for the landmark symposium conference, Transatlantic Perspectives on Alternative Dispute Resolution. On the following morning, July 27, the Right Honorable Lord Harry Woolf, the world's preeminent proponent of alternative dispute resolution, and the immediate past Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, gave the keynote address, and he engaged in a lively dialogue with the audience at large. Over the course of the next two days, Queen Mary University of London at Charterhouse Square hosted more than a dozen panels, featuring more than fifty presenters. The Armourers' Hall was the magnificent setting for the conference banquet, with more than 150 guests from around the world. The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, a world-wide ADR service provider headquartered in London, and the St. John's University School of Law, were the primary co-sponsors for the conference, with additional support from the NASD and the law firms of Reed Smith and Brown & Welsh.

What follows Lord Woolf's keynote address are some of the very best papers presented at the conference. The papers, like

[†] Co-chair of the Conference and the Dorothy Day Professor of Law, St. John's University; J.S.D., Yale Law School. I thank Gregg Hunt, my indispensable conference co-chair, of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators; the Rev. Dr. Houston Putnam Lowry, Esq., Brown & Welsh, my best friend from Yale Law School days a quarter century ago and the intellectual catalyst for the conference; St. John's Law Review Editor-in-Chief Frank Cavanagh, an exceptionally inspirational and innovative EIC, and, especially, Garris and Davy, for everything, always.

^{††} J.D. Candidate, June 2007, St. John's University School of Law; B.S., 2002, Cornell University.

the conference, span the remarkably wide spectrum of ADR issues and challenges. Labor and employment relations is one of ADR's foundational cornerstones, and that genre is very well-represented in these proceedings. The spirit of the late Harry Shulman, Dean of the Yale Law School, is robustly alive in the brilliant essay by Professor Jack Getman, one of the world's premier labor law scholars. Indeed, the legacy of the better part of a century of labor relations ADR theory and practice was manifest in the continuity from Dean Shulman to Professor Getman, who, before joining the law faculty at the University of Texas, taught at the Yale Law School, where he directed the doctoral dissertation of Professor Gregory, the co-chair of the conference. In turn, Frank Cavanagh, Editor in Chief of the *St. John's Law Review*, and a student of Professor Gregory's, presented their co-authored paper on the labor panel with Professor Getman. Commercial, securities, intellectual property, international law, and a myriad of complex procedural issues, present some of the other areas exploring ADR challenges and opportunities.

Throughout the conference, there was a consciousness of ethical imperatives and ideals, set, at least in part, by the keynote address and audience dialogue and by the opening panel, devoted to ethical standards and featuring, inter alia, Dean Mary Daly of St. John's Law School, Professor Bruce Green of Fordham Law School, Rick Rossein, Professor and former Interim Dean of the City University of New York at Queens College Law School, Nancy Nelson, Senior Fellow of the International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution, Kay Linnell, Forensic Director of Smith & Williamson, and Patrick Westerkamp, a prominent labor and employment arbitrator and mediator. The conference concluded with an emphasis on the future, through lively panels examining the challenges and opportunities of teaching current law students to become the next generation of ADR practitioners. The essay by Michael Bryce, a particularly innovative clinical law professor whose work was recognized and honored by the American Bar Association award for public service, captures some measure of the energy and intellectual excitement of the closing session.

We ended as we began, sensitized to ethics and to public service, with our vision set on the future of ADR with realism, optimism, and resolve. This landmark conference, well-

2007]

INTRODUCTION

3

represented in the articles that follow, will be a template and a baseline for future academic and professional proceedings. The St. John's Law Review is proud and privileged to present this rich body of astute and innovative thought to you.