
2018

Welcome and Opening of the 41st Annual CUSLI Conference

Canada-United States Law Institute

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/cuslj>

Recommended Citation

Canada-United States Law Institute, *Welcome and Opening of the 41st Annual CUSLI Conference*, 42 Can.-U.S. L.J. 40 (2018)

Available at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/cuslj/vol42/iss1/5>

This Remarks is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Journals at Case Western Reserve University School of Law Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Canada-United States Law Journal by an authorized administrator of Case Western Reserve University School of Law Scholarly Commons.

WELCOME AND OPENING OF THE 41ST ANNUAL CUSLI CONFERENCE

Speaker: Michael P. Scharf

PROFESSOR SCHARF: Okay. Good morning, everybody. Welcome to wonderful, sunny Cleveland. I am sorry about the rain. At least it is not snowing.

We are very excited to have all of you here for our 41st Annual Canada-U.S. Law Institute ["CUSLI"] Conference. I am Michael Scharf, the Co-Dean of the Law School, and it is my great pleasure to formally ring Henry King's bell, which is the traditional start of this conference.

Henry King, if you didn't know, was the long-term director of this conference, he was a former Nuremberg prosecutor, and his spirit is still with us. In fact, the conference bears his name.

This is a really great time to be having this particular conference, and when the executive committee met last June, I think we had no idea how extraordinarily relevant this was going to be this very week. In fact, yesterday, as all of you know who have read the news, the Trump Administration released their blueprint for the renegotiation of [the North American Free Trade Agreement ("NAFTA")], and we will be the first legal panel in the country addressing, live on the internet for people around the world to watch, the very issues that everybody has on their minds.

This university is completely steeped in this issue. In fact, on Monday, Vicente Fox will be speaking across campus to our university. This is the kickoff of something that the university is really embracing in terms of trying to get the word out, to try and have the academic and practitioner contributions to these important policies.

My job today is to welcome you and also to thank our sponsors and the people who have made this conference and the organization possible. So on the sponsors, you noticed when you were checking in there is a big poster that lists them, but let me just tell you who they are because without their support we couldn't be here today.

Our Platinum Sponsor is DLA Piper. Our Gold Sponsor is Dickinson Wright. Our Silver Sponsors include the Canada Consulate of Detroit. Left out of my intro yesterday was the BakerHostetler law firm. I should mention that this beautiful, newly renovated moot courtroom is thanks to their generosity as well, and that's Mr. Hostetler's picture back there as well. (Indicating.)

We also have as Silver Sponsors: ALT Technologies; GE Canada; and Cliffs Natural Resources. For the Bronze Sponsors, we have: Taft, Stettinius and Hollister; Wegman, Hessler and Vanderburg; Bear and Earth Formica Group; Phillips Lytle; and Bennett Jones.

Our Program Partner is the Cleveland Council on World Affairs. This organization is run by a group who takes no pay and spends a lot of time trying

to help us fundraise and come up with the concepts, the panels, and the speakers for these conferences. They are really what make this possible.

Our co-chairs are Jim Blanchard and Jim Peterson. The presidents are the deans of [the University of Western Ontario (“Western”)] and myself. There is a new dean at Western Ontario, Erika Chamberlain, who will be joining us next year. Next, our Executive Committee includes Dick Cunningham and Larry Herman, who won the two prestigious awards last night, and we thank them for their long-term contributions.

We also have Ross Hornby, Laura F. Dawson, Diane Francis, Ken Jones, Rick Newcomb, and Chris Sands. And then, finally, we have two National Directors: Chi Carmody from Western; [and] Steve Petras from BakerHostetler on the U.S. side. Our managing director, who most of you have seen because he runs around and makes all this work, is Ted Parran.

So without further ado, I am going to turn it over to the first panel, and once again, I ring you in to the 41st Annual Conference of the Canada-US Law Institute.

Thank you, all. (Applause.)