Looking at courts

Conference Chairman Frederick P. Furth, '59 (standing), of The Furth Firm LLP, and Dean Evan Caminker converse as Caminker prepares to moderate a panel discussion on “Protecting Stakeholders: Racial, Ethnic, Religious, and Political Groups in Democratic Elections” as part of the XIII International Judicial Conference in Kiev, Ukraine, last spring. At left is panelist Ivan Verougstraete, first president of the Supreme Court of Belgium, and at right is Vasly Majarenko of the Supreme Court of Ukraine, also a conference chairman. Sponsored by The Furth Family Foundation, and co-sponsored by the University of Michigan Law School and the Supreme Court of Ukraine, the conference devoted one day to weighing “The Roles of Courts in Democratic Elections” and its second full day to discussion of the issue of “Maintaining Judicial Independence.” U-M Law School Professor Daniel Halberstam served as commentator for the panel “Protecting the Vote: Judicial Supervision of the Electoral Process,” Conference participants included judges from the Ukraine, Belgium, Egypt, the Czech Republic, the United States, France, Benin, Jordan, Indonesia, South Korea, Botswana, and other officials. In other international activities, Caminker, Assistant Dean for International Programs Virginia Gordan, and Hessel E. Yntema Professor of Law Mathias Reimann, LLM. '83, in September participated in separated reunions with Law School graduates in Brussel, Zurich, and Milan.

New faculty add to Law School expertise

Six new arrivals — a professor, three assistant professors, and two clinical assistant professors — have joined the Law School faculty this fall, enriching the Law School’s expertise and course offerings in the areas of legal philosophy, Chinese law, property and law, and federal courts and jurisdiction, as well as instruction in the skills of advocacy and document preparation taught in the School’s pioneering Legal Practice Program.

In addition, a veteran administrator well known to the Law School community as director of the statewide resource program for child advocacy attorneys headquartered at the Law School has joined the clinical teaching staff to work with the Law School’s Child Advocacy Clinic.

The new faculty members are:

Professor Scott J. Shapiro

Professor Shapiro joins the Michigan faculty after nine years at Yeshiva University’s Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in New York. In 2002–2003, he was a visiting professor at the Yale Law School and in 2003–2004 was a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences.

Professor Shapiro received his bachelor’s degree from Columbia College, where he graduated magna cum laude and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He earned his law degree at Yale and then received his Ph.D. in philosophy from Columbia University, graduating with distinction. He taught social and political philosophy at Columbia, where he received the National Endowment for the Humanities Dissertation Grant and was a Columbia University President’s Fellow and Mellon Foundation Faculty Fellow.

During graduate school, he worked as a volunteer attorney at the Center for Battered Women’s Legal Services in New York City. Professor Shapiro received the Gregory Kavka award for best published article in political philosophy for the two-year period 1998–1999 from the American...
Philosophical Association and is the editor (with Jules Coleman) of The Oxford Handbook of Jurisprudence and the Philosophy of Law. Professor Shapiro holds a joint appointment with the Law School and the University of Michigan Philosophy Department.

**Assistant Professor Nicholas C. Howson**

Assistant Professor Howson earned his J.D. from the Columbia Law School in 1988, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar, recipient of the David M. Berger Prize for Public International Law and the Samuel I. Rosenman Prize for Academic Excellence and Citizenship, and served as head notes editor of the *Columbia Journal of Transnational Law*. After graduating from Williams College in 1983, Howson spent 1983-85 as a graduate fellow at Fudan University in Shanghai, China, studying and writing on late Qing Dynasty and early modern Chinese literature. After law school, he was awarded a Ford Foundation/CLEE fellowship to complete research in Qing Dynasty penal law at Beijing University and with scholars at People’s University and the China University of Politics and Law.

In late 1988, Howson joined the New York-based international law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, and was elected partner in the corporate department in 1996. He worked out of the firm’s New York headquarters from 1988 – 2003, and also had postings in the London, Paris, and Beijing offices, finally as managing partner of the firm’s China Practice based in Beijing. In this period, Howson acted for clients in several precedent-setting corporate M&A, investment, and securities transactions, including the first Rule 144A offering into the U.S. capital markets (Thorn EMI), the first debt issuance by a Chinese state-owned enterprise (Sinochem), many of East Asia’s largest project finance transactions (power generation, oil and gas exploration, production and development, and transportation), the first private placement of shares to foreign interests in a newly privatized Chinese company limited by shares (25 percent of Hainan Airlines to George Soros), and the first U.S. registered IPO and listing of shares on the New York Stock Exchange by a PRC-domiciled issuer (Shandong Huaneng Power Development).

Howson writes and lectures widely on Chinese law, focusing on Chinese corporate and securities law developments, and has acted as a consultant to the Ford Foundation, the UNDP and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and Chinese government ministries and administrative departments. He was Lecturer-on-Law at Columbia Law School 1995 – 2003, taught Chinese law at Harvard Law School 2003 – 04, and was a visiting assistant professor of law at Cornell Law School 2004 – 05, where he taught U.S. securities regulation, Chinese investment law, and China’s legal reform and public international law. Howson is a member of the New York Bar, Council on Foreign Relations, and Board of Advisors for Columbia Law School. He is a designated foreign arbitrator for the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC) and chairs the Asian Affairs Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

**Assistant Professor Madeline Kochen**

Assistant Professor Kochen’s research and teaching interests include property, theories of justice and obligation, Talmudic law, and constitutional law. Kochen earned her B.A. magna cum laude and her J.D. from Yeshiva University, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. She holds an A.M. in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and a Ph.D. in Religion and Political Philosophy, both from Harvard University.

After graduating from law school, Kochen worked in New York as a criminal appeals attorney with the Legal Aid Society, and later as staff attorney and legislative counsel with the American Civil Liberties Union. She also founded and directed the New York Civil Liberties Union’s Women’s Rights/Reproductive Rights Project, and served as law assistant to New York State Supreme Court Justice Elliott Wilk. Before attending Harvard, Kochen taught at Stanford Law School, where she was Director of Public Interest Law, as well as Assistant Dean of Students.

While working on her dissertation, Kochen was a fellow at Harvard’s Center for Ethics and the Professions, and taught Talmudic and Jewish law to faculty and to students at Harvard Law School. She spent three years at the Institute for Advanced Study working with Michael Walzer as co-editor of *The Jewish Political Tradition, Volume III: Community* (Yale University Press, forthcoming). Her dissertation, “Beyond Gift and Commodity: A Theory of the Economy