Expanding Our Global Presence: SUNY Buffalo Law Builds on Growth in International Students and Programs

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.law.buffalo.edu/ub_law_forum

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://digitalcommons.law.buffalo.edu/ub_law_forum/vol30/iss1/14

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Alumni Publications at Digital Commons @ University at Buffalo School of Law. It has been accepted for inclusion in UB Law Forum by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ University at Buffalo School of Law. For more information, please contact lawscholar@buffalo.edu.
Expanding our
global presence

SUNY Buffalo Law builds on growth in
international students and programs

As SUNY Buffalo
Law School ex-
pands its
global presence,
drawing international students
and establishing programs
worldwide, a new Office of In-
ternational and Graduate Pro-
grams will build on that
momentum.

Interim Dean James A.
Gardner announced creation
of the office, which will be
headed by Professor Meredith
Kolsky Lewis, newly named vice dean
for international and graduate pro-
grams. In addition, Joseph E. Schneider
'02 has been named assistant dean for
international and graduate education.

Lewis, who joined the law faculty in
2013, maintains an appointment at the
Victoria University of Wellington Law
School, in Wellington, New
Zealand. She teaches public
and private international law
subjects, with a primary re-
search interest in international
economic law, focusing on in-
ternational trade.

The Law School began de-
veloping new international
offerings and linkages in 2013,
when Professor David "Bert"
Westbrook was appointed di-
rector of global strategic ini-
tiatives and Lewis was named
director of the Canada-U.S. Legal Stud-
ies Centre.

"Bert was very successful in his role,
making important strides in conceptu-
alizing, marketing and developing our
international programs," Gardner
said. "Among other achievements, Bert
led our efforts to design and roll out our
two-year J.D. program, and developed
and implemented our dual LL.M. pro-
gram with the Catholic University of
Lyon. While Bert is stepping down
from his position, he has laid the
groundwork for additional growth in
these programs.

"Meanwhile, Meredith has been in-
strumental in developing our cross-
border initiatives, beginning with re-
branding the Canada-U.S. Legal Stud-
ies Centre as the Cross-Border Legal
Studies Center, then developing and
initiating our cross-border legal studies
concentration, and most recently ob-
taining faculty approval to seek the au-
thorizations necessary to introduce an
LL.M. in cross-border legal studies."

These initiatives have attracted
more international students
to apply for the Law School's
master of laws and two-year
J.D. programs.

In her new role, Gardner said,
"Meredith will be responsible for over-
seeing and developing a wide range of
international and graduate initiatives in
the areas of degree programs, curricu-
um, international student recruitm ent,
study abroad and exchange programs,
and faculty exchange."

Schneider, formerly director of
post-professional and international ed-
ucation, joined the Law School in 2008.
"Joe has traveled extensively on behalf
of the Law School and has com muni-
cated directly with many prospective
students," Gardner said. "His efforts
have resulted in significant growth in
our international applicant pool as well
as a welcome increase in the engage-
ment of many of our international
alumni. As assistant dean, Joe will con-
tinue to be the person primarily re-
ponsible for recruiting, admitting,
seating and supporting the Law
School’s LL.M. and two-year J.D. stu-
dents. He will also play a more promi-
nent role in working with current inter-
national students and international
alumni."