College of Law

Fall 2019/2020-Issue 2

Contents

We are growing 3

Message from the Dean 4

Message from the Chairs 5

HCERES Expert Committee Visit 6

Guest Lecture on
'Bankruptcy Law Reform' 7

SCCA 2nd Conference on
International Arbitration..... 8

PMU - Pepperdine Joint
Workshop on ADR 9

10th Annual Middle East
Vis Pre-Moot Program 10

On-Campus Moot Court 11

PMU College of Law Initiatives 12

Forthcoming Activities:

International Conference 13

International Competitions..... 14

Shariah Workshop 15

12th Law Fair 16

Contact us 17

We are growing...

The College of Law welcomes five new faculty members to its growing team.

The new comers, who have started this Fall 2019, are specialized in specific areas of law that supplement the College's resources and reinforces the curriculum.

Dr. Mohammad Bashayreh, Dean; Associate professor, Commercial law.

Dr. Federico Fusco, Assistant professor, Employment and labor law.

Dr. Rabai Bouderhem, Assistant professor, Private international law.

Dr. Mazen Raad, Assistant professor, Corporate and bankruptcy law.

Dr. Amer Tabbara, Assistant professor, Commercial arbitration.

Message from the Dean

Not so long time has passed since the last newsletter. Yet, many developments and activities have been achieved or are ongoing at the PMU College of Law.

Our law program has been reviewed, evaluated and, accordingly, a revised degree plan has been approved. As ever, through compulsory and elective law courses, the program encompassed PMU's six core competences of communication, thinking, leadership, teamwork, problem solving and technology. Further, the revised Degree Plan of the law program incorporates PMU's additional competences of global connection and conflict resolution: skills embedded in these competences are aligned to new courses, such as Global Legal Systems, Public International Law and Alternative Dispute Settlement.

Needless to say, the underlying philosophy of learning has not changed and continues to harmonize with and further the mission of PMU. To describe briefly the "PMU way" of learning law, the law program takes a comparative approach that is founded on solid understanding of the legal system of Saudi Arabia. Also, our teaching and learning methods aim to provide the students with a rich and profession-tailored learning experience. With a competence-based learning, our faculty members utilize creative teaching methods and our students are largely engaged in curricular and extra-curricular activities where they demonstrate and improve critical thinking and professional skills.

We aspire to be one of the leading colleges of law in the region with international recognition and reputation. Our mission is to excel in teaching and research and to graduate students who are acquainted with legal knowledge and good ability to apply it in a professional and ethical manner with commitment to justice and community service.

It is in this context that the College is proposing a new program on international legal studies and envisions a new master program in dispute resolution. With institutional support, the College continues to grow programmatically as well as in human and material resources. We all in the College of Law look forward to furthering the mission of the College and, by corollary, that of PMU.

Dr. Mohammad Bashayreh, Dean

Message from the Chairs

The Department of Law started operation in the Academic Year 2011/2012 under the College of Human Sciences and Studies with less than 30 male and female students.

This year the Ministry of Education has approved the establishment of the College of Law and the number of current students exceeds 600 male and female students.

The College of Law is now in the process of applying for the accreditation from the French accreditation council, HCERES.

As we are eager to give our students the opportunities to explore their boundaries and expand their horizons, we engage ourselves in advising and coaching spectacular teams with the highest skills.

We thrive to offer them a chance to gain substantial experience, positive outcomes and innovative techniques to develop their ideas and skills and be able to perform and excel.

The College of Law is also in designing a new Bachelor's Degree in International Legal Studies. It will be the first program of its kind in the region.

This is the second issue of the College of Law Newsletter in the Academic Year 2019/2020. Enjoy it!

Dr. Muamar Salameh, Chair

Dr. Cecile Abi Tayeh, Associate Chair

HCERES Expert Committee Visit

A delegation from the French High Council for Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (HCERES) visited Prince Mohammed Bin Fahd University for the purpose of evaluating and accrediting the law program. The accreditation committee consisted of five specialists in the accreditation of academic programs. The PMU Rector, Dr. Issa Al Ansari, received the committee and stressed the importance of the accreditation process that helps enhance quality. The committee also met with the Vice Rector, Dr. Faisal Yousif Al Anezi and discussed the process of accreditation.

The committee had separate meetings with the Dean of the College of Law, the Chairs as well as Faculty members, Dean of Quality and Accreditation, Deanship of Registration, LRC, current students, alumni and employers. The experts visited the moot court, the legal clinic in addition to other buildings and facilities in the university.

The preparation for the accreditation visit has taken about one year, during which the Self Study Report was submitted in July 2019, and the Quality Assurance Committee of the College, supported by faculty members, finalized the required documentation.

Guest Lecture on 'Bankruptcy Law Reform'

The College of Law has hosted Professor François-Xavier Lucas of the Sorbonne Law School as its guest speaker. During his visit from 4 to 5 November, 2019, Professor Lucas gave a lecture on bankruptcy law reform, presenting different policies shaping bankruptcy laws and introducing French law as an example.

In his closing remarks following the lecture, Dr. Mohammad Bashayreh outlined the similarities between the bankruptcy framework under the Saudi Bankruptcy Regulation of 2018 and the French law. On Tuesday 5th, November, 2019, Professor Lucas recapped on his lecture, which was broadcast onto the Female Campus, in a meeting with female students and faculty and responded to their questions.

SCCA 2nd Conference on International Arbitration

On 16th and 17th October 2019, six male students and six female students represented the College of Law at the Second International Conference on Arbitration (SCCA19 International Conference) under the theme “The Evolution of Arbitration in the Middle East and North Africa: Realities and Perspectives’”.

The Conference emphasized the importance of institutional arbitration in economic transformation and as a means of dispute resolution flourishing in international trade, domestic commercial relations, and State-investor disputes.

PMU Law students also participated in a two-day training on Arabic Moot Competition, organized by the Saudi Center for commercial Arbitration. These training sessions enhanced our student’s legal skills and confidence to compete in the First Arabic Moot organized by the Center at the national level.

The competition provides a learning experience through which students use and improve advocacy and professional skills. It also gives them an opportunity to interact with arbitrators and practitioners.

The teams are supervised by Dr. Samia Hassan, Assistant Professor and Dr. Amer Tabbara, Assistant Professor.

PMU-Pepperdine Joint Workshop on ADR

A one-week workshop on Alternative Dispute Resolution was jointly organized by PMU and Pepperdine University for 10 PMU students at Pepperdine University, LA, USA, in the period from 07 to 12 October, 2019.

Students have actively participated and interacted with the participants from Pepperdine University, where they discussed case studies on dispute settlement. The workshop is but one activity in the context of a broader and ongoing collaboration between PMU College of Law and the University of Pepperdine.

10th Annual Middle East Vis Pre-Moot Program

PMU Faculty Member, Dr. Rabai Bouderhem attended the Vis Pre-Moot Program training organized by the Commercial Law Development Program CLDP in Abu Dhabi, UAE, from 20 to 22 October, 2019.

A three-day workshop was implemented to introduce the Vis-Moot Problem and identify the main issues that the arbitral tribunal will determine. It is a multi-phased program aiming to develop the capacity of the arbitration specialist through preparing PMU team to participate in the Annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot.

The College of Law has registered this year a Team of five students (three male and two females) in order to participate in this competition. As a part of our dedication at the College of Law and Prince Mohammad bin Fahd University to develop our students' skills, international mooting participations contribute to improving the students' abilities to communicate orally and in writing; demonstrate the merits of a claim; construct sound legal arguments; and develop their knowledge of international commercial and arbitration laws.

The training and regional, friendly rounds of the Vis Pre-Moot Competition is intended to be a preparation for the official competition to be held in Vienna in April, 2020.

PMU team is supervised by Dr. Rabai Bouderhem, Assistant Professor & Dr. Samia Hassan, Assistant Professor

On-Campus Moot Court

During this Fall Semester, professors and students of the Internal Legal Practice course have started using the Moot Court established recently in PMU. Separate female and male classes carried out role playing exercises at the Moot Court. Applicant and Respondent students were presenting their arguments in front of "judges," their instructors.

The on-campus Moot Court was established to familiarize students with different cases in various areas of law and to provide them with insights into legal practice. Students were given the opportunity to perform and understand the different legal roles encountered in a real court. Also, our students preparing for moot competitions will be training in the Moot Court , which has been designed and equipped in accordance with high quality standards. Here is feedback from a number of female students on this learning experience:

"I am honored to be one of the first students to have pleaded at PMU's Moot Court. The room is identical to a prestigious professional court, and built within the national and international standards, which helps us as students get the experience we need before heading out into the workforce. It had gotten us even more excited to work hard and present well. I hope we get to visit the Moot Court regularly to gain from the benefits it provides" ~ Nouf Alabdulkarim

"*The Moot Court visit was a pleasant surprise for us to experience court in real life. It was so exciting to finally play roles of defense attorneys and public prosecutors in a real Court*" ~ Noura Alsarra

"*Visiting the Moot Court was a very nice experience, which made us all surprised and excited to present our assignment as if it was a real court, which can help us later in the future to prepare for our jobs*" ~ Jumanah Basodan

"*Our visit to the University Moot Court was not like any visit at any of other university sites. We got to experience how to act inside the court and had a clear vision of how to interact with the judge. This visit helped us understand the system and method of pleading before a Court. It is one of the best adventures I have had during my study journey.* ~ Ola Alghamdi

PMU College of Law Initiatives

A New Bachelor Program in International Legal Studies

The College of Law is pursuing the approval process of a new bachelor program in international legal studies. The proposed program has gained clear support from external reviewers representing the University of Groningen. The program will feed into the University's mission and goals which focus on preparing students to be globally connected, open to multiculturalism, and to meet the changing needs of the workplace.

Saudi Civil Case Law

In the context of stimulating legal research in the College, a research group has been set up to work on a pilot project aiming to clarify and facilitate access to the Saudi civil case law. That is, to review published court decisions and extract Shariah principles and rules as applied by the courts and, then, present them in a modern form of statute-like provisions with commentary linking the provisions to relevant case law (court decisions). The pilot project will focus on a specific matter concerning contracts and is expected to be completed in Spring 2021. The outcomes will elucidate aspects of Saudi law that has not hitherto been researched and will encourage comparative legal studies between the Saudi civil law and other national laws.

المملكة العربية السعودية
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Forthcoming Activities—International Conference

STRAUS INSTITUTE
FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION

present

THE GLOBAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 22-23, 2019

The Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University School of Law, in collaboration with Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University, is proud to present the Global Dispute Resolution Conference, November 22-23, 2019, in Malibu, California.

Conflict is a global reality, as well as a common experience for every human being. But the ways of addressing conflict vary from country to country, region to region, and even from person to person. This event provides a unique opportunity to explore and approach conflict resolution from a global mindset. Understanding conflict and the role it plays in various cultures is essential to solving the world's most pressing challenges.

Over two days, scholars, lawyers, and ADR practitioners will share how their unique perspectives on mediation, negotiation, and arbitration have the capacity to shape and transform conflict across the globe.

Forthcoming Activities—International Competitions

PMU Law students will participate in the Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration Arabic Moot Court in March 2019 in Riyadh

المركز السعودي للتحكيم التجاري
Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration

PMU Law students will participate in the Annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot in April 2020 in Vienna

Forthcoming Activities—Shariah Workshop

Sharia Workshop

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The workshop is in the form of display and questions & answers about topics that are most interesting to the general public in Arabic and English. It aims at showing some of the most interesting aspects of Sharia law to the cosmopolitan community of PMU. Typical subjects of discussions include:

* *The inimitability of the Quran*
* *The Sunna of the Prophet as a source of legislation*
* *The importance of rules of inheritance in Islam*
* *Rules of marriage and divorce*
* *The importance of Zakat for finance stability*
* *The significance of Legal Maxims as a genre of law*

Join us on Wednesday 27th November, 2019

Organized & Supervised by: Dr. Khadiga Latef.

Forthcoming Activities—12th Law Fair

The Committee for extra-curricular activities have planned various projects, with a view to developing a number of important skills, disseminate legal knowledge, and enrich the students' commitment to community service. In this context, the 12th Law Fair will be organized on campus.

Our vision is to explore the importance of the regulation and legislation, stress the commitment to justice, and to preserve rights and to perform duties. The mission is to promote legal culture and knowledge.

The 12th Law Fair aims to promote the values of justice, truth and equity among the students. The exhibition will highlight many topics to be prepared and presented by law students.

Join us on

Tuesday 3rd December, 2019

The event is organized by the Law Club & Supervised by Dr. Samia Hassan, Dr. Rabai Bouderhem & Mrs. Modi Almaghlouth

For more info, please contact us...

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