

Call for Papers

Mapping Emergent Terrains, Contesting Rigidified Traditions:
The First Annual Graduate Student Conference of
The Toronto Group for the Study of International, Transnational, and Comparative Law

University of Toronto Faculty of Law

11-13 January 2008

The Toronto Group for the Study of International, Transnational, and Comparative Law is pleased to announce its first annual graduate student conference. The principal aim of the conference is to encourage critical inquiry and collaborative discussion by providing a forum in which to explore shared anxieties and aspirations relating to international, transnational, and comparative legal scholarship. Panels will be chaired by legal scholars from the University of Toronto Faculty of Law and Osgoode Hall Law School, York University. Confirmed keynote speakers include Professor Anne Orford of the University of Melbourne Law School, Professor Ed Morgan of the University of Toronto Faculty of Law, Professor Frédéric Mégret of McGill University Faculty of Law, and Professor Thomas Skouteris of Leiden University Faculty of Law.

Applicants are encouraged to submit theoretically informed papers concerning – or, better yet, testing the limits of and boundaries between – international, transnational, and comparative law. Possible themes include, but are by no means restricted to, the social/political/ethical “role(s)” of international and comparative legal scholars; North/South debates in international trade, labour, and environmental law; the conceptual and normative relations between “private” and “public” international law; formalism and anti-formalism in international and comparative law; collective security, use of force, and humanitarian intervention as fields of hegemonic struggle; local and global states of exception/emergency; the influence of international organizations and global governance initiatives on legal scholarship; political ramifications of the transnational migration, diffusion, and circulation of legal norms; post-colonial and Third World approaches to international and comparative legal studies; the interface between international law and international relations; international law as “ideological” epiphenomenon and/or site of emancipatory resistance; the turn toward legal anthropology in human rights research; and the (international) rule of law.

While the conference’s objective is to facilitate engagement with issues arising from these and related areas of legal scholarship, submissions from graduate students in disciplines other than law are also welcome.

Conference Instructions

Presenters are asked to submit an abstract of no more than 400 words as well as a brief biographical statement, including information regarding current academic affiliations and general research interests, by 15 October 2007. Presenters will be notified by 25 October 2007. All inquiries and materials should be addressed to <torontogroup2008@gmail.com>.

Conference Organizers

Michael Fakhri and Umut Özsu – S.J.D. Candidates at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law (michael.fakhri@utoronto.ca and umut.ozsu@utoronto.ca)