IT IS THE MISSION of the International Center for Law and Religion Studies at Brigham Young University to help secure the blessings of freedom of religion and belief for all people by expanding, deepening, and disseminating knowledge and expertise regarding the interrelationship of law and religion; facilitating the growth of networks of scholars, experts, and policy makers involved in the field of religion and law; and contributing to law reform processes and broader implementation of principles of religious freedom worldwide.
A few days after returning home from our annual Law and Religion Symposium at BYU Law School in October, Vanja Savić, a friend, symposium delegate, and law professor from Croatia, wrote me a letter. In it he quoted Malachi 3:16: “Then those who revere God spoke to one another, and God listened and took note.” I was deeply touched by the idea that the Lord had been listening and taking note of the many speakers who raised their voices in defense of religious freedom at our symposium.

The verse Professor Savić quoted goes on to say, “And a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name.” In a sense, this annual report represents that “book of remembrance.”

Our goal is not just to report on many of the Center's numerous activities but to provide a stewardship accounting—not only to those who support our work here but also to higher authority. The Center's mission of striving to help advance freedom of thought, conscience, and religion for all people in all places is ambitious, but our ambition is tempered by the word “help,” which serves as a recognition of our many partners and collaborators, as well as an awareness that ours is a long-term, not short-term, project.

We also appreciate the importance of remembering—of pausing to take account of what has been done—to understand better the trial we have walked, to express gratitude to those who have walked it with us, and to chart a clearer course for the future. As Steve Jobs memorably observed, “You can’t connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backward.”

As we prepare for the 25th anniversary of the annual symposium in October 2018, we do so with amplified awareness of the work that has come before. In these pages is a report of the symposium as well as our second major BYU conference, the Religious Freedom Annual Review, which has quickly been established as another meaningful Center tradition. Important regional conferences are also featured, including the launch of a new scholarly society in New Delhi—the South Asia Consortium for Religion and Law Studies (SACRALS)—which joins other regional and international learned societies that the Center supports. We also report on the Center's teaching programs in China, Vietnam, Myanmar, Indonesia, Nigeria, and Hungary, and on our focus on our own students, publications, advocacy efforts, and development activities.

Our hope is that our deep gratitude for the opportunities for meaningful work, as well as our limitless gratitude for the help, partnership, and support of those who make this work possible, is evident on every page.
OUR STUDENTS

We are fortunate to work with some of the best and the brightest law students. Each year, dedicated students devote countless hours to the Center. They attend conferences, work behind the scenes at the annual symposium, conduct research, and participate in many other activities.

Associate director Elizabeth Clark said, “Our students bring an enormous range of personal experiences, talents, languages, and academic backgrounds that greatly expand our Center’s capabilities. They know the Law School with firsthand experience and training in religious liberty issues and are prepared to be articulate advocates for religious freedom issues wherever their careers and lives take them.”

After attending the 2017 symposium, Vanja-Ivan Savić, assistant professor and head of the Department for Legal Theory at the University of Zagreb in Croatia, said, “I never saw so many young intelligent people who are willing to get involved in the field [of law and religion] in such large numbers. . . . I see passion and enthusiasm. This is your greatest asset, I think.”
The logistics of hosting a conference as large as the annual Law and Religion Symposium are complicated. Fortunately, each year when the annual symposium rolls around, the Center can rely on the Symposium Executive Committee. Composed of BYU Law students who volunteer countless hours, the Executive Committee manages everything from the master schedule to transportation to and from airports and hotels to coordinating with translators. Under the direction of Professor Elizabeth Clark, they keep the symposium running smoothly.

The students quickly strike up friendships with the delegates and are often spoken of with praise. Symposium delegate Daniel Cere, a professor of religious studies at McGill University, said, “The students have just been remarkable. It’s not just in terms of the work they are doing but in their cordiality. It’s been wonderful having the opportunity to meet, talk, and walk the walk with BYU students.”

“Working with the symposium has always been an incredibly positive experience for me. It is fascinating to see people from all around the world come together to celebrate religious freedom and to discuss how to make this a fundamental right for everyone.”

—SARA PLATER
Committee Member

Right: Rhonda Peck, Malea Moody, Jessica Farnsworth, Shelise Rupp, George Simons, Athelia Graham, Nathan Kinghorn, Mark Petersen, Scott Mosley, Austin Miller, Sara Plater, David Headley, Elizabeth MacLachlan, Stephanie Lofgreen, Emily Parkinson, Jacob Crump, Karen Sullivan, Kaleb Brimhall, Brenden Stuart

2017 Symposium Executive Committee
During the 2016–17 school year, the Center drew upon the skills of a talented group of students who served on the Student Management Board. Made up of second- and third-year law students, the Management Board lets students participate in research, conferences, writing and editing projects, and other assignments with the Center. Many of this year’s board members were fluent in a foreign language and had worked as student fellows or had volunteered at the annual symposium.

Jessica Farnsworth said of her experience: “I love working on the Management Board because it gives me a chance each week to feel like I am already using my legal education for things that are important to me personally, even though I am still in school. The Center’s work is always current to things going on in the world that I wish I could do something about, whether it is helping one of the professors with a paper or presentation they are working on, spreading awareness about religious freedom issues to the general public, or working with international scholars who are participating at one of our international conferences. I feel lucky to not just get a front-row seat to the latest discussions on how to promote religious freedom but to get to play a small part in preserving an essential right for both people close to me as well as around the world.”

2016–17 Student Management Board

THIRD-YEAR LAW STUDENTS
Tanner Bean, Tye Christensen, McKenna Mills Collins, Jeremy Driggs, Raquel Flores-Vera, and Michael Goodrich

SECOND-YEAR LAW STUDENTS
Reed Adlish, Alexander Allen, Adam Books, Sarah Clifford, Jessica Farnsworth, Lauren Flores, Rebecca Horne, Ryan Hughes, Minji Kim, Thomas Palmer, Joshua Prince, and Benjamin Thornell

2017 Touro Law Center’s Fourth Annual Law and Religion Moot Court

Four members of the ICLRS Student Management Board competed in the Touro Law Center’s fourth annual National Law and Religion Moot Court. The two teams—3Ls Tanner Bean and McKenna Mills Collins and 2Ls Jessica Farnsworth and Joshua Prince—each wrote an appellate brief as if briefing the U.S. Supreme Court on both sides of a religious freedom issue. Then on 3–4 April 2017 the students traveled to Touro Law Center in Central Islip, New York, to compete in the oral portion of the competition, arguing both sides of the case. Farnsworth and Prince’s oral advocacy earned them a finish in the octofinals of the competition. Bean and Mills advanced to the quarterfinals.

2017 Outstanding Service Awards

At the Barrister’s Ball, an annual tradition of the BYU Law School, the Center honored the following students for their dedicated service to both the Center and the cause of international religious freedom: Laura Shrum, Cami Schiel, Scott Ludlow, Bradley Abebe, Cara Dacello, McKenna Mills Collins, Andee Gempeler DeVore, Michael Goodrich, and John Sellers (not pictured).
2017 Student Summer Fellows

Every summer, the Center selects a group of students who have completed their first year of law school to participate in legal externships and guided individual research projects. Legal externs work in international offices of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, where they gain valuable experience learning about the intricacies of various countries’ legal systems and the importance of religious freedom. Student fellows perform research with Center faculty and participate in the Religious Freedom Annual Review. Many will go on to join the Center’s Management Board or the Symposium Executive Committee, while others will assist with one of the Center’s international conferences.

AMY ANDRUS
Auckland, New Zealand

SHAUN D. BELLISTON
Lima, Peru

ATHELIA GRAHAM
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

KYLE A. HARVEY
São Paulo, Brazil

JOHN ILER
Frankfurt, Germany

NEAL LIU
Salt Lake City, Utah

JUSTIN MILLER
Buenos Aires, Argentina

SCOTT MOSLEY
Accra, Ghana

JOE MOXON
Johannesburg, South Africa

DIANNA ODELL
Moscow, Russia

SARA PLATER
Lima, Peru

SHELISE RUPP
Salt Lake City, Utah

TAYLOR SHAW
Frankfurt, Germany

GEORGE SIMONS
São Paulo, Brazil

2017 Fellowships

Jack P. Peterson
Research Fellow

Maud Birkin Peterson
Research Fellow

W. G. and Helen Johnson
Summer Research Fellows

AMY ANDRUS AND JUSTIN MILLER

2017 Student Summer Fellows and 2017 Fellowships
“When people ask what I did on my summer vacation, I tell them I learned important
lessons about the law, gained insight into the work I would eventually like to do,
developed professional skills, and learned more about the qualities and skills I want to
further develop as a lawyer. And I did all of those things at home in Provo and halfway
around the world in a land of endless beaches, rainbows, and raspberry-and-cream-filled
donuts. My joint fellowship/externship was both a personal and professional gift,
and I am incredibly grateful for it.”

—AMY ANDRUS
Auckland, New Zealand
“What I really wanted from my 1L summer was a broad range of cases, which working in a general counsel setting provided—especially because the organization is so big and has so many moving parts. The other, and really the most important, thing I was hoping for during my 1L summer was mentorship. I happened to meet the Africa Southeast area legal counsel (ALC) at the ICLRS Annual Review last year as an admitted student and was really impressed by him. Between him and three incredible ALC missionaries, I got even more mentorship than I bargained for.”

—JOE MOXON
Johannesburg, South Africa
“The highlight of my fellowship was meeting and working with dedicated and kind individuals in my office and in the country. It seems that in the United States there is a tendency to jump straight to the issue at hand at the expense of general niceties. In Ghana it seemed that everyone would wait to start business until after ‘good mornings’ or ‘good afternoons’ were exchanged. This expectation brought the perspective that legal work really entails working with people and not just with a set of facts. It solidified to me that some of the most important work an attorney can accomplish is in the relationships he or she builds with his or her clients and those whom he or she serves.”

—SCOTT MOSLEY
Accra, Ghana
African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies

The fifth annual conference of the African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies (ACLARS) took place in Rabat, Morocco, in May. Following the success of conferences in Ghana (2013), South Africa (2014), Namibia (2015), and Ethiopia (2016), this event was a collaboration of ACLARS with the International University of Rabat; the ICLRS; and the International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies (ICLARS) in Milan, Italy.

Participating in this highly successful event were more than 100 scholars, government officials, and religious leaders from Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, Italy, the Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kenya, Morocco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Zimbabwe.

The subject of the conference was “Religion, Law, and Security” with a focus on religious extremism, blasphemy, violence, terrorism, and human and sustainable security.
Africa Conferences

LAW AND RELIGION: THE ROLE OF THE STATE
24–28 APRIL 2017
Ibadan, Nigeria

The Center cosponsored this event, held at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria.

FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE AFRICAN CONSORCIUM
FOR LAW AND RELIGION
STUDIES (ACLARS): RELIGION,
LAW, AND SECURITY
14–16 MAY 2017
Rabat, Morocco

Read about this conference on page 18.

RABAT PLAN OF ACTION FOLLOW-UP
SYMPOSIUM
6–7 DECEMBER 2017
Rabat, Morocco

Professor Durham participated in this symposium, titled “Rabat+5 Symposium on the Follow-Up to the Rabat Plan of Action” and coorganized by the government of the Kingdom of Morocco and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Professor Durham made a presentation titled “Potential Contributions of the G20 Interfaith Summit Process to Furthering the Objectives of the Rabat Plan of Action.”

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The first of the Center’s regional conferences in 2017 was focused on the role of religion in development. Held at one of India’s foremost law faculties—the National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NALSAR) in Hyderabad—the Center collaborated with Professor Faizan Mustafa, vice rector of NALSAR, and Professor Tahir Mahmood, former chair of the Minorities Commission of India, former dean of the New Delhi Law Faculty, and currently distinguished jurist chair, professor of eminence, and chair of the Amity Institute of Advanced Legal Studies at Amity University. Conference attendees included 2 Supreme Court justices, 5 university vice rectors, and approximately 70 other delegates. These delegates represented various religious backgrounds, political viewpoints, and social philosophies. Two days of presentations and discussions surrounded the theme “Peace, Stability, and Sustainable Development: The Role of Religion.”

13–15 JANUARY 2017
Hyderabad, India

REGIONAL CONFERENCE
International Center for Law and Religion Studies
The Launch of SACRALS

A new entity was launched at a meeting of international religious scholars in New Delhi: the South Asia Consortium for Religion and Law Studies (SACRALS). An academic, apolitical, and nongovernmental regional association, SACRALS was organized with Professor Tahir Mahmood as its first president. Headquartered in India, the entity will have institutional support from Amity University and will conduct academic programs in all eight South Asian nations: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. SACRALS will collaborate and interact with similar institutions and organizations at national, regional, and international levels in other parts of the world. It will also have a national council that consists of Indian scholars and a regional council with members from the other South Asian states. Both councils will be chaired by a president who will always be from India.

The Secular State and Religious Freedoms

An international forum on law and religion on the theme “The Secular State and Religious Freedoms” was held at the University of the Philippines Diliman in Quezon City. The forum was sponsored by the ICLRS, the University of the Philippines College of Law, the J. Reuben Clark Law Society, and the Philippine Center for Islam and Democracy.

The purpose of the event was to raise awareness of the international importance of protecting freedom of religion and to form alliances and relationships among government officials, judges, attorneys, scholars, prominent individuals, and leaders and members of faith-based groups. Ultimately, this increased awareness and these alliances will strengthen religious freedom in the Philippines and encourage both legal and scholarly efforts to defend and protect freedom of religion.

Among the approximately 200 people in attendance were prominent interfaith leaders; an ambassador and representatives from the embassies of Argentina, Austria, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States; lawyers, justices, and judges, including former and current justices of the Philippine Supreme Court and a judge of the International Criminal Court; law students and faculty from several participating law schools; media personnel; and members and staff from the Philippine Senate and Congress.
Third Conference on Freedom of Religion or Belief in Southeast Asia

7–9 NOVEMBER 2017
Manila, Philippines

The third Southeast Asia Freedom of Religion or Belief Conference (SEA FoRB III) was held in Manila, Philippines. Organized by the International Commission of Jurists, Boat People SOS, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Forum-Asia, and the Center, this conference sought to adopt a more hands-on approach and to involve wider participation from influential leaders and key stakeholders in the promotion of religious freedom in Southeast Asia.

The conference was designed to implement the Declaration of Freedom of Religion or Belief in Southeast Asia, commonly called the Bangkok Declaration, that was adopted at the first SEA FoRB Conference held in Bangkok, Thailand, in 2015. The declaration notes that “the prospect of greater economic, social and cultural integration among the States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) provides an important opportunity for acknowledging existing and emerging diversity of religions or beliefs in the region.” The aim of SEA FoRB III was to move toward improved administration of the objectives identified in the Bangkok Declaration. Former chief justice of the Philippine Supreme Court Hilario G. Davide Jr. indicated in his keynote address that this entails looking at “freedom of religion or belief as part of an advocacy for total human development in a just and humane society.”

Middle East, Asia, and South Pacific Conferences

PEACE, STABILITY, AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: THE ROLE OF RELIGION
13–15 JANUARY 2017
Hyderabad, India

LAUNCH OF THE SOUTH ASIA CONSORTIUM FOR RELIGION AND LAW STUDIES (SACRALS)
21 JANUARY 2017
New Delhi, India

RELIGION AND RULE OF LAW CERTIFICATE TRAINING: MYANMAR
20 FEBRUARY–1 MARCH 2017
Mandalay, Myanmar

The ICLRS and the Institute for Global Engagement (IGE) in partnership with the Mandalay Community Center, hosted the second Religion and Rule of Law training in Myanmar. The program came amidst a challenging period in Myanmar’s democratic transition with controversy over the treatment of religious minorities in ethnic regions. The conference brought together a diverse group of religious leaders, civil society leaders, lawyers, and scholars. Representatives from the Mandalay regional office of the National League for Democracy also attended the program to show their support for the training.

RELIGION AND RULE OF LAW: YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW
25 MARCH 2017
Yangon, Myanmar

This academic conference was held in conjunction with the second Religion and Rule of Law training program. Held at Sittagu International Buddhist Academy, the conference provided a public platform for faith leaders from Mandalay to speak on challenges faced in a multi-faith society. Senior legal experts from Myanmar, Norway, the United Kingdom, Singapore, Canada, and the United States also shared their views on the differing needs of minority and majority groups in the ASEAN context.
RELIGION AND RULE OF LAW CERTIFICATE TRAINING: VIETNAM
7–10 MARCH 2017
Pleiku, Vietnam

In partnership with the IGE and Vietnam National University’s University of Social Sciences and Humanities of Hanoi, the Center, represented by Professor Scharffs, conducted the sixth Religion and Rule of Law certificate training program in Vietnam. The four-day training program focused on good governance and religion, religious rights, international standards of religious freedom, religious freedom in Vietnam, and the implications of Vietnam’s new law on religion and belief, which was ratified by Vietnam’s National Assembly in November 2016. This and previous trainings have resulted not only in local scholarship but also in a growing network of like-minded reformers who are making religious freedom and rule of law regular topics of both study and practice at academic and government institutions across Vietnam.

INTERSESSION SEMINAR ON RELIGION AND HUMAN RIGHTS
JULY 2017
Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Professor Scharffs was a guest lecturer in the inaugural seminar at the gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta. He lectured on the drafting and background of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, particularly on the meaning of Article 18, which enshrines freedom of thought, conscience, and religion.

RELIGION AND HUMAN RIGHTS
JULY 2017
Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Professor Scharffs participated in a course at the Center for Religious and Cross-Cultural Studies, part of the graduate school of the Gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta. He taught classes on the foundations of human rights; the right of freedom of thought, conscience, and belief; and the regulation of religion under the rule of law. The course was expanded in 2017 to one year's master's degree program on sharia and human rights at Muhammadiyah University, with the financial support of the Asia Foundation.

RELIGION AND HUMAN RIGHTS
JULY 2017
Malang, Indonesia

Professor Scharffs lectured for the sixth consecutive year at the Master’s-Level Course on Sharia and Human Rights at Muhammadiyah University in Malang. This innovative course is designed to encourage discussion between two important world legal systems: Islamic law and human rights law. Professor Scharffs taught courses on the foundations of human rights; the right of freedom of thought, conscience, and belief; and the regulation of religion under the rule of law. The course was expanded in 2017 to one year's master's degree program on sharia and human rights at Muhammadiyah University, with the financial support of the Asia Foundation.

THE ROLE OF RELIGION AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN RESPONDING TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
JULY 2017
Jakarta, Indonesia

Professor Scharffs was a guest lecturer for the law faculty of the University of Muhammadiyah in Malang.

RELATIONS BETWEEN RELIGIOUS MINORITIES, MAJORITIES, AND THE STATE IN INDONESIA AND THE UNITED STATES
31 JULY 2017
Jakarta, Indonesia

Professor Scharffs was a panelist at an open forum sponsored by the U.S.-Indonesian Society (USINDO). During his visit to Jakarta, Professor Scharffs was also invited to participate in discussions of newly proposed government regulations that affect civil society organizations. These discussions occurred with senior officials at Indonesia’s, Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs.

RELIGION AND RULE OF LAW CERTIFICATE TRAINING: INDONESIA
13–19 MARCH 2017
Jakarta, Indonesia

The year 2017 saw the first ever Religion and Rule of Law certificate training program in Indonesia. The training was organized by Leimena Institute, a Christian organization dedicated to interfaith understanding, with the support of the Center and IGE. An academic conference was also held and covered extensively in the national media.

THE ROLE OF RELIGION AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN RESPONDING TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
JULY 2017
Malang, Indonesia

Professor Scharffs was a guest lecturer for the law faculty of the University of Muhammadiyah in Malang.
FOURTH SINO–U.S. COUNTERTERRORISM DIALOGUE
4–6 AUGUST 2017
Beijing, China

Professor Durham was a co-convener of the fourth Sino–U.S. Counterterrorism Dialogue, focused on deepening communication and understanding between Chinese and U.S. leaders in government, military, civil society, and business about issues related to terrorism, religion, security, and governance.

INTERFAITH DIALOGUE FOR PEACE, HARMONY, AND SECURITY
5–6 AUGUST 2017
Yangon, Myanmar

Professor Scharffs spoke on conflict prevention, peace, and harmony at the major international conference the Interfaith Dialogue for Peace, Harmony, and Security (Samvad II). This event was held at the Sitagu International Buddhist Academy in Yangon.

EIGHTH ANNUAL CERTIFICATE TRAINING PROGRAM
7–9 AUGUST 2017
Beijing, China

Professors Durham and Scharffs participated as trainers in the eighth annual Religion and Rule of Law certificate training held in Beijing, China, and sponsored by the Pu Shi Institute. They each spoke on several topics relating to this year’s program theme, “Religion and Security.” Professor Durham lectured on the strategic outlook and global trends in countering violent extremism, the International Bill of Rights as it relates to religion, and newly emerging religions. Professor Scharffs spoke on the legal status of religious groups, religious freedom and free speech, and religious property, finance, and tax issues. The training included experts from several countries, as well as participants from many parts of China.

THIRD SOUTHEAST ASIA FREEDOM OR RELIGION OR BELIEF CONFERENCE (SEA FORB III)
7–8 NOVEMBER 2017
Manila, Philippines

Read about this conference on page 26.

RELIGION, ECONOMICS, AND THE ASEAN COMMUNITY
23–24 OCTOBER 2017
Ha Noi, Vietnam

Continuing more than a decade-long tradition of partnership with the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Hanoi and the IGE, the Center cosponsored “Religion, Economics, and the ASEAN Community.” Professor Scharffs gave an opening address, and Center senior fellow Neville Rochow also participated.

PLACES OF WORSHIP AND HOLY SITES IN EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST: STATUS AND PROTECTION UNDER NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LAW
8–10 NOVEMBER 2017
Nicosia, Cyprus

At a conference organized by the Conference of European Churches, the Church of Cyprus aimed to increase respect and protection for places of worship and holy sites. Professor Durham participated in a panel on legal personality and registration, presented a case study on Russia, and moderated a session on dispossession and change of proprietor.

CONSULTATION ON CHALLENGES TO FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF IN SOUTHERN ASIA
14–15 DECEMBER 2017
Bangkok, Thailand

Professor Durham participated in a program organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner of Human Rights in collaboration with the National Council of Churches of India. He made two presentations: “Freedom of Thought, Conscience, and Religion or Belief” and “Interreligious and Interfaith Strategies.”
Religion and the Legacy of the Soviet State

2–4 JUNE 2017
Tbilisi, Georgia

Along with the Free University of Tbilisi School of Law, the Center cosponsored a conference on the theme “Religion and the Legacy of the Soviet State.” The scholars, government officials, and civil society leaders from Eastern Europe and Central Asia who were in attendance focused discussions on how the legacy of state control and intolerance of dissent continues to play a role in this region.

The conference opened with a keynote by Michael Bourdeaux, founder and president of the Keston Institute, an organization that has worked for decades to support persecuted believers in the Soviet Union. In plenary sessions, Father Vladimir Fedorov, director of the Orthodox Research Institute of Missiology, Ecumenism and New Religious Movements, discussed religious bases of tolerance within the Russian Orthodox tradition. Dmytro Vovk, associate professor at Yaroslav the Wise National Law University, addressed the politicization of law and religion. Professor Scharffs addressed religious pluralism and religious monopolies in post-Soviet countries.

Other plenary sessions addressed questions of restitution of church properties and the Soviet legacy in Ukraine, Estonia, and Georgia. In one plenary, several participants from Central Asia discussed the clear pattern of increasing restrictions experienced in Central Asia since the fall of the Soviet empire. The conference also included nine smaller breakout sessions that covered such topics as the Soviet legacy in contemporary Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine; legislation in Russia, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan; and minority religions in Russia, past and present.
G20 Interfaith Summit: Religion, Sustainable Development, and the Refugee Crisis

15–17 JUNE 2017
Potsdam, Germany

More than a hundred experts and leaders on economy, law, politics, religion, development, and humanitarian aid from 30 nations gathered for the fourth consecutive G20 Interfaith Summit on the theme “Religion, Sustainable Development, and the Refugee Crisis.” Held on the beautiful campus of the University of Potsdam in Germany, the event brought together people of various faiths and backgrounds to discuss the key role that religion plays in achieving aspects of the United Nations’ post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals. Germany chose to highlight these same goals during the 2017 G20 Summit, held in Hamburg on 7–8 July 2017. Special attention was paid to issues surrounding the refugee crisis and to concerns such as religious extremism, famine, and other issues to which religious voices have much to contribute.

Attendees included individuals who played important roles at prior G20 Interfaith conferences as well as experts and groups interested in helping to build the network of religious voices concerned with G20 outcomes and to provide concrete policy recommendations from the religious sector. The Potsdam summit helped showcase the scholarly and societal contributions made by faith traditions and philosophies from around the world toward advancing the Sustainable Development Goals.

There were multiple significant outcomes of this conference:

• The summit extended relationships with more than 24 collaborating institutions. The event brought together representatives from major organizations, including a variety of religious voices, in the single broadest forum for contributing religious ideas to the G20 process.

• Leaders contributed to the T20 process. The Center joined with other religious policy think tanks to submit specific policy recommendations with respect to the refugee and famine crises. The recommendations were made in the context of the T20 (Think20) and were carried forward as recommendations for the G20 Summit. The final set of T20 recommendations are available at t20germany.org.

• Participants strengthened ties with global leaders who deal with religion and development—a field vital to governments throughout the developing world.

Previous G20 Interfaith Summits have been held in Brisbane, Australia; Istanbul, Turkey; and Beijing, China. The meetings in Potsdam helped lay the foundations for the 2018 G20 Interfaith Summit, to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. More details on the conference as well as recordings of this and past summits are available at www.g20interfaith.org.
**Eastern European and European Conferences**

**Radboud University Conference on Migration and Religion**  
9–10 February 2017  
Nijmegen, Netherlands  
Professor Durham presented a paper titled “United States and European Religious Freedom Law: A Comparative Analysis of Implications for Migration Issues” at a conference at Radboud University. This conference was partly organized by one of the Center’s Academic Advisory Board members, Sophie van Bijsterveld.

**Are Catholic Majorities More Hospitable to Religious Minorities?**  
13 April 2017  
Trento, Italy  
Professor Scharffs presented on the topic “Are Catholic Majorities More Hospitable to Religious Minorities Than Others?” at Fondazione Bruno Kessler.

**Migration: Religions Without Borders—European and American Perspectives**  
5 May 2017  
Trnava, Slovakia  
At this event, sponsored by the Slovakian Ministry of Culture and the ICLRS, Professor Doxey presented on the refugee crisis from an American perspective.

**Food for Thought Breakfast Series**  
10 April 2017  
Brussels, Belgium  
The European Union Office of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints held another event in its Food for Thought Breakfast Series, titled “Why Religious Freedom? Why the Religiously Committed and the Religiously Indifferent Should Care.” Professor Scharffs was the guest speaker.

**Financing of Churches and Religious Organizations: A Comparative Perspective**  
4 May 2017  
Trnava, Slovakia  
Professor Doxey delivered a keynote on the subject of government financing of religious organizations from the American legal perspective at this conference, which was cosponsored by the Center.

**BYU London Centre Luncheon**  
21 May 2017  
London, United Kingdom  
Professor Durham and BYU London Centre Director David Kirkham hosted a luncheon and presentation for a Latin American diplomatic group at the Centre. Professor Durham spoke on religious freedom, and Professor Kirkham spoke on education in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
THE KOKKINAKIS PAPERS: TAKING STOCK OF 25 YEARS OF ECHR JURISPRUDENCE ON FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF 27–28 MAY 2017 Budapest, Hungary

The ICLRS and Central European University cosponsored an event celebrating the beginning of the 25th year of cases addressing freedom of religion or belief in the European Court of Human Rights. Professors Durham and Scharffs both presented. Their papers will be published in a volume by Brill in 2018.

SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE: UK AND IRELAND CHAPTER OF THE J. REUBEN CLARK LAW SOCIETY 11 AUGUST 2017 Cambridge, United Kingdom

Professor Durham was among the experts who participated in an event sponsored by the J. Reuben Clark Law Society’s UK and Ireland Chapter at Downing College in Cambridge. He was part of a panel of refugees and spoke about recent cases in the European Court of Human Rights involving persecution by refugees after leaving their home country. He also talked about the importance of religious freedom in foreign settings. Senior fellow Professor David M. Kirkham also participated. Elder D. Todd Christofferson, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, was the keynote speaker.

EX NIHOLO: ZERO CONFERENCE OF THE EUROPEAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION 18–19 JUNE 2017 Bologna, Italy

Professors Durham and Scharffs joined almost a thousand religion scholars in Bologna at the first conference of the newly established European Academy of Religion. The professors participated in a panel organized by the Oxford Journal of Law and Religion on the theme “Religious Rights and International Law: Responses Universality and Subsidiarity.”

AMAR CONFERENCE 6–11 SEPTEMBER 2017 London, United Kingdom

Senior fellow Professor David M. Kirkham attended a high-level conference at Windsor Castle. The conference was a follow up to an All-Party Parliamentary Group on Foreign Affairs meeting that had been held earlier in the House of Lords. Discussions centered on the religious persecution that had become the driver for forced migration. Attendees included Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and Baroness Emma Nicholson.

ITALIAN PARLIAMENT 25 SEPTEMBER 2017 Rome, Italy

Professor Durham and Center fellow James Toronto presented at the Italian Parliament of legal considerations of religious liberty in Russia.

AMAR MEETING: HOUSE OF LORDS 13 DECEMBER 2017 London, United Kingdom

Professor Kirkham attended an AMAR meeting in the House of Lords that launched the All-Party Parliamentary Group for the Prevention of Sexual Violence in Conflict.

A TALE OF TWO CONSTITUTIONS 18 SEPTEMBER 2017 Versailles, France

The Center cosponsored a conference titled “A Tale of Two Constitutions” at the Palace of Versailles. Professor Scharffs presented at the event.

UNITED NATIONS LAUNCH OF THE OSCE/ODIHR GUIDELINES ON THE LEGAL PERSONALITY OF RELIGIOUS OR BELIEF COMMUNITIES 29 SEPTEMBER 2017 Geneva, Switzerland

Professor Durham participated in the presentation and discussion of the Guidelines on the Legal Personality of Religious or Belief Communities at the United Nations Office at Geneva. The guidelines were issued by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and the Venice Commission.

RELIGION AND THE LEGACY OF THE SOVIET STATE: A 25-YEAR RETROSPECTIVE 1–4 JUNE 2017 Tbilisi, Georgia

Read more about this conference on page 34.

G20 INTERFAITH SUMMIT: RELIGION, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, AND THE REFUGEE CRISIS 15–17 JUNE 2017 Potsdam, Germany

Read more about this conference on page 37.
The Principle of Secularity and Religious Freedom

Scholars from Latin America gathered in Montevideo to discuss the theme “The Principle of Secularity and Religious Freedom: The Role of the State in a Pluralistic Society.” The conference was held primarily on the campus of the Universidad Católica del Uruguay and was sponsored by the Latin American Consortium for Religious Liberty, the ICLRS, the Universidad Católica del Uruguay, San Pablo, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the Parliament of Uruguay, and the Municipality of Colonia, Uruguay.

The conference, which is also the annual colloquium of the Consortium, focused on laicidad, the Latin American version of the separation of church and state. The first evening of meetings was opened by Carmen Asiaín, president of the Consortium and a Uruguayan senator, and was held at the national Senate chambers. The presentations that followed were given by four leading Uruguayan senators, Center senior fellow Scott Isaacson, and others. Key participants at the colloquium included the cardinal archbishop of Montevideo and the rector, the vice rector, and the dean of the law school at the Universidad Católica del Uruguay. Professor Doxey and senior fellow Denise Lindberg participated as panelists.

In addition, Professor Lindberg was nominated and inducted by unanimous vote into the Consortium as a full voting member representing Cuba, the country of her birth. This was her second year presenting at this annual colloquium.
Latin America Conferences

INTERFAITH SYMPOSIUM
13 FEBRUARY 2017
San Salvador, El Salvador

Elder Ronald A. Rasband, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, was the keynote speaker at an interfaith symposium organized by the Church and by Professor Gary Doxey. The event featured select civic and religious leaders from five Central American countries. The group expressed unanimous support for continued collaboration throughout the region to educate about and improve laws concerning religious freedom.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM CHALLENGES IN COSTA RICA: A PENDING HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITMENT
9 JUNE 2017
San José, Costa Rica

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF BOLIVIA
MARCH 2017
Bolivia

Center senior fellow Scott Isaacson traveled to Bolivia and presented at public forums on three separate campuses of the Catholic University of Bolivia. The Center's partners for the event included members of the Senate of Bolivia, the Catholic University of Bolivia, and the Conference of Catholic Bishops of Bolivia, as well as a coalition of Christian churches. The purpose was to educate citizens and legislators about a critical law placed before the Bolivian Senate.

THE PRINCIPLE OF SECULARITY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
14 SEPTEMBER 2017
Montevideo, Uruguay

Professor Doxey shared his thoughts on the importance of religious freedom to society’s well-being and the need to work together to defend religious freedom at an event in Uruguay. This nationally prominent event was organized by a coalition of Argentine religious, civic, and commercial societies and the provincial government of Tierra del Fuego, among others.

II CONGRESO DE DIÁLOGO INTERCULTURAL E INTERRELIGIOSO
1–2 NOVEMBER 2017
Ushuaia, Argentina

Professor Doxey, Professor Isaacson, and Jeff Robinson (a member of the ICLRS International Advisory Council) traveled to Costa Rica for several meetings. They met with personnel from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in San José and with members and staff of Costa Rica’s unicameral Legislative Assembly. In collaboration with the Legislative Assembly and the Costa Rican Bar Association, the Center held an international symposium titled “Religious Freedom Challenges in Costa Rica: A Pending Human Rights Commitment.” The symposium discussed the importance of religious freedom and the need to reform Costa Rican law to protect it better. Representative Fabricio Alvarado and other members of the Legislative Assembly have been collaborating with the Center during the past three years to draft and refine religious freedom legislation that Costa Rica’s Legislative Assembly is now considering. Speakers and participants included the president of Costa Rica, three presidential candidates, leading national religious figures, the president of the Legislative Assembly, and a member of the Costa Rica Supreme Court. A highlight of the symposium was the keynote speech by Elder Dale G. Renlund and Sister Ruth L. Renlund of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

DIALOGUE ON ETHICS AND ECONOMICS
2–3 NOVEMBER 2017
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Professor Doxey and Academic Advisory Board member Juan Navarro Floria spoke to a conference of economists, religious leaders, government leaders, and representatives of faith-based NGOs on the history of the G20 Interfaith Summit in a plenary titled “Sustainable Development: The Interfaith Alliance and the G20 Interfaith Group.”

COMMEMORATION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM IN MEXICO
7–8 NOVEMBER 2017
Mexico City, Mexico

FIRST CARIBBEAN RELIGIOUS FREEDOM SYMPOSIUM
15–17 NOVEMBER
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

The Center cosponsored the first Caribbean Religious Freedom Symposium, titled “Religious Freedom and Economic Development.” The event highlighted the importance of religious freedom as a fundamental right related to freedom of conscience. The Center was represented by Professor Doxey, senior fellow Scott Isaacson and Denise Lindberg, and Academic Advisory Board member Juan Navarro Floria. Elder Quentin L. Cook, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, spoke at the conference along with other religious, academic, and government leaders from throughout the region.

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Nearly 400 attendees gathered in Provo, Utah, for two days of presentations and discussions on religious liberty in the United States at the 2017 Religious Freedom Annual Review: "A Guide to Religion in Schools, the Workplace, and the Public Square." Originally established as a conference for lawyers, the annual review has expanded to include all who are interested in learning more about religious freedom. This year's conference attracted attendees from all states, Canada, and Mexico. One presenter, Michael Moreland of the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture and a professor of law at Villanova University, said, "I think it's important for people to be informed about these issues. . . . And this is a great forum in which to learn what the emerging issues are, what some of the flash points are, and what some of the current cases that are coming up before the courts are and to interact with people who come from a whole range of backgrounds."

U.S. Senator Jeff Flake from Arizona gave the opening keynote. Senator Flake stated, "I am reassured by the peace and comfort provided by my faith. It has always been so. Every event of significance in my life draws meaning because of my faith, my beliefs, my religion. That is why I so strongly support religious liberty and believe that the rights recognized by the First Amendment are so fundamental. . . . For me, this is not a theoretical or esoteric issue." Senator Flake asserted that Americans must stand for religious freedom both within and without their borders and discussed some of his work, in arguing against a religious litmus test for immigrants and his diplomatic work in Cuba and Africa.

The conference included plenary sessions, panels, and a series of workshops designed to provide practical information on religious rights in schools, the workplace, and the public square; how to reach out and find common ground with LGBTQ communities; and how individuals can become more engaged on religious issues. Key participants included Melissa Rogers, former executive director, White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships; Daniel Cox, research director, Public Religion Research Institute; Amina Adbul, director of strategy, Center for Islam and Religious Freedom; William F. Atkin, associate general counsel, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Helen Easterling Williams, dean and professor of education, Pepperdine University; John Jackson, president, William Jessup University; Shapri LoMaglio, vice president for government relations and executive programs, Council for Christian Colleges and Universities; and Katrina Lantos-Swett, former chair/vice chair, United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

"We must stand for religious freedom in this country regardless of the prevailing political winds."
—SENATOR JEFF FLAKE

"John Adams once said, 'Freedom of thought and of the right of private judgment in matters of conscience direct their course to this happy country as their last asylum.' I'm sure we also share the hope that such freedoms one day need not look to the United States for their last asylum but can be exercised in countries around the globe. Conferences like these move us toward those goals."
Religious Freedom is an essential human right for people of all faiths—and no faith as well.

—ASMA UDDIN

Religious freedom affirms my right to be whole. As human beings it is our natural instinct to attach ourselves to something—something that dwells in the innermost parts of our being, something that is deep within us, that harkens deep down to the marrow of our bones. In this we find wholeness. In this we find a sense of completeness.

—HELEN EASTERLING WILLIAMS

The defense of conscience, whether one’s own or that of others, is a fight worth waging because it is so inexorably linked to our fundamental dignity and freedom as human beings.

—KATRINA LANTOS-SWETT

BROCHURES FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Attendees at the conference received brochures aimed at educating the general public about religious freedom. These brochures were the first four of a series prepared and published by the ICLRS in collaboration with the Religious Freedom Center of the Newseum Institute.

• A Parent’s Guide to Religion in the Public Schools
• A Teacher’s Guide to Religion in the Public Schools
• Religious Freedom in the Workplace: An Employee’s Guide
• Religious Freedom in the Workplace: An Employer’s Guide

A complete list of participants and topics, as well as recordings from 2017 and past annual reviews, are available at religiousfreedom.byu.edu.
Every fall the ICLRS hosts the annual International Law and Religion Symposium. The 2017 symposium, on the theme “Religion and Religious Freedom in a Changing World,” was the largest to date, as 96 delegates from 48 countries gathered in Provo to discuss the status of religious freedom in their home countries and throughout the world.

Two distinguished keynote speakers opened the symposium. Ján Figel’, special envoy for the promotion of freedom of religion or belief outside the European Union, spoke of freedom of religion or belief as a litmus test for human rights. It is linked to a number of other rights, including freedom of thought, conscience, and conviction as well as the right to assembly, association, and expression. As a consequence of this expansiveness, Figel’ explained, “Respect of human rights is not possible without respecting freedom of religion or belief.” He called for religious climate change—for a joint action of humanity to overcome ignorance, illiteracy, and divisions and to work for peace, justice, sustainable development, and human dignity for all. No matter what changes we may experience in the world, Figel’ explained, we all have a shared commitment to uphold human dignity and protect fundamental human rights.

The second keynote speaker, András Sajó, former judge and vice president of the European Court of Human Rights, spoke of the detrimental effects on religious freedom that result from a decline in liberty. He identified three particular assaults on liberty: contemporary security concerns, the extension of the public sphere and government services, and the shift in the freedom to manifest religion from a matter of liberty to a matter of personal identity. Sajó argued that religious demands on conduct should be respected as long as they are compatible with others’ freedoms, which entails toleration of practices, even if that toleration may cause some emotional discomfort for others. Ordinary emotional discomfort cannot be sufficient grounds for restricting religious expression. Sajó expressed his hope that participants in the democratic process would understand the moral superiority and practical advantages of the dictates of liberty.
Over the next two days, delegates met in plenary sessions and breakout sessions to discuss the symposium’s theme, specifically religion and security, religion and pluralism, and religion and the rule of law. In several breakout sessions, representatives of various nations discussed the theme as it related to their home countries. This year the symposium featured a plenary session and three breakout sessions devoted to judicial perspectives that were organized by Judge J. Clifford Wallace, emeritus chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Judges were invited from various parts of the world to discuss the theme and its application in the courts. “Religion is too important,” said Judge Wallace. “These ideas on freedom of religion or belief ‘have to be implemented in a court context,’” he explained.

In addition to sharing knowledge and practical experience, the symposium provides the opportunity to network with others. Fearghas O’Beara, adviser to the vice president and secretary general of the European Parliament, said, “I’ve been to many different symposia on some of these topics, but I have found that the mix that was here of academics and practitioners like myself, people of different backgrounds, religious leaders themselves, brought a very rich experience.”

Hans-Martien ten Napel, professor at the Leiden Law School, Institute of Public Law in the Netherlands, agreed that while the topics were fascinating, the conversations were equally valuable. “The conversations go on in the shuttle to the law school, and . . . during the breaks, the meals,” he said. “It’s wonderful to be with people who are all in one way or another interested in the topic of law and religion.”

The symposium is truly an opportunity to further the mission of the Center by expanding, deepening, and disseminating knowledge and expertise regarding the interrelationship of law and religion; by facilitating the growth of networks of scholars, experts, and policy makers involved in the field of religion and law; and by contributing to law reform processes and broader implementation of principles of religious freedom worldwide. Dennis Neuenschwander, emeritus general authority seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, said: “There is great unanimity of respect and of commitment to a concept of religious liberty for the individual . . . [To bring delegates here, where they can speak their mind and interact with each other, is a marvelous thing].”
The J. Reuben Clark Law Society and the ICLRS were honored to present the 2017 International Religious Liberty Award to Baroness Elizabeth Berridge for her many years of support and work for religious liberty.

Elizabeth became Baroness Berridge of the Vale of Catmose in the county of Rutland on 20 January 2011. As a member of the House of Lords, she founded and now serves as chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on International Freedom of Religion or Belief and is a member of the Joint Committee on Human Rights. Within her role as baroness, she works on projects relating to policing, human rights, and foreign affairs and is patron of the Rutland Foodbank. She is also a commissioner on the Conservative Party Human Rights Commission and a member of the advisory council of the Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East.

The award was presented at the International Religious Liberty Award Dinner, held at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC. Elder D. Todd Christofferson, member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, delivered the keynote address. Baroness Berridge followed with her acceptance remarks.

Winners of the Center-sponsored 2017 Founding Fathers Student Writing Competition were also recognized at the dinner.

Prior to the award dinner, two consecutive panels were held. “The Economic Impact of Religious Liberty” was composed of panelists Brian J. Grim, president of the Religious Freedom and Business Foundation; Debbie Marriott Harrison, global officer and member, Marriott International’s Culture and Business Council; Paul Lambert, assistant dean, Georgetown University’s McDonough School of Business; and Nathan C. Walker, executive director, 1791 Delegates. “Promoting Religious Liberty Within Your Sphere of Influence” was composed of panelists Elder Von G. Keetch, general authority seventy, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Tim Schultz, president, First Amendment Partnership; Montse Alvarado, director of strategy, the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty; and Thomas F. Farr, president, Religious Freedom Institute.
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<tr>
<th>Placement</th>
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<th>Paper Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>Michael West</td>
<td>University of Virginia School of Law</td>
<td>“Waiving the Ministerial Exception”</td>
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<td>Second</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>Daniel Boger</td>
<td>University of Virginia School of Law</td>
<td>“The Executive Branch as a Promoter of Religious Liberty”</td>
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<td>Third</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>James Phillips</td>
<td>UC Berkeley School of Law</td>
<td>“Learning to Think Like a Decedent Lawyer? Investigating Whether the First Year of Law School Influences Views on Religious Liberty”</td>
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<td>Rodney “Rod” Harrell</td>
<td>Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University</td>
<td>“State Free Exercise Defenses to Civil and Criminal Nondiscrimination Laws? Strict Scrutiny and the Public Accommodation of Sexual Orientation”</td>
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<td>Jared Magnuson</td>
<td>University of Georgia School of Law</td>
<td>“Let Your Conscience Be Your Guide: Comparing and Contrasting Washington’s Death with Dignity Act and Pharmacy Regulations After the Ninth Circuit’s Decision in Stormans, Inc. v. Wiesman”</td>
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<td>Peter Houser</td>
<td>Notre Dame Law School</td>
<td>“Compelling Interest Versus Compelling Belief: RFRA and Nondiscrimination”</td>
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<td>Honorable Mention</td>
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<td>Paul Schmitt</td>
<td>University of Illinois College of Law</td>
<td>“Snuffing Out a Thousand Points of Light: Government Marginalization of Religious Intermediate Institutions”</td>
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North America Events

**SUMMIT ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM: AN INTERFAITH INVITATION**
31 JANUARY 2017
Orlando, Florida

Professor Durham joined other religious-freedom experts at the Summit on Religious Freedom. His remarks were titled “The Continuing Need for Vigilance Concerning Religious Freedom.”

**NOOTBAAR INSTITUTE CONFERENCE: RELIGIOUS CRITIQUES OF LAW**
9–10 MARCH 2017
Malibu, California

Professor Clark presented at Pepperdine Law School’s annual Nootbaar Institute Conference. His paper looked at how freedom is understood in Latter-day Saint doctrine and how that contributes to Mormon willingness to engage in dialogue on social issues.

**BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY CAMPUS EDUCATION WEEK**
21–25 AUGUST 2017
Provo, Utah

As part of the Religious Freedom Series offered during BYU’s Campus Education Week, Professor Doxey gave two lectures, and Professors Durham, Scharffs, and Clark joined William Atkin, associate general counsel for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, on a panel about international challenges to religious freedom.

**CLARK SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE**
17 FEBRUARY 2017
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania


**IRLA EIGHTH WORLD CONGRESS**
22–24 AUGUST 2017
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Professor Durham—a prolific author, editor, and international scholar who is one of the IRLA’s advisory directors and a member of its Board of Experts—was presented with the International Religious Liberty Award of Honor for global impact in promoting constitutional law, human rights, and religious freedom.

**RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ANNUAL REVIEW WORKSHOP**
4–7 JUNE 2017
Princeton, New Jersey

Professor Durham presented a paper titled “Foundations for Pluralism: A Contractualism” at a meeting of the IRLA’s Board of Experts, held at Princeton University. The theme of the meeting was “University of Human Rights: A Implications of the Universal: Soiling Grounds to Stand On.”

**BYU–IDaho RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WORKSHOP**
21 SEPTEMBER 2017
Rexburg, Idaho

Professor Scharffs spoke at the Religious Freedom Workshop at BYU–Idaho. His topic was “Religious Freedom and Gay Rights: Commonalities, Cooperation, and Common Ground.”

**IRLA EIGHTH WORLD CONGRESS**
22–24 AUGUST 2017
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Professor Durham was among the distinguished plenary speakers at the eighth World Congress for Religious Freedom, sponsored by the International Religious Liberty Association (IRLA). During the event, Professor Durham—a prolific author, editor, and international scholar—who is one of the IRLA’s advisory directors and a member of its Board of Experts—was presented with the International Religious Liberty Award of Honor for global impact in promoting constitutional law, human rights, and religious freedom.

**BYU LAW ANNUAL SUPREME COURT REVIEW**
23 SEPTEMBER 2017
Provo, Utah

Professor Clark participated on a panel titled “A Changing Supreme Court: The Future of Constitutional Interpretation” as part of the BYU Law School’s Annual Supreme Court Review. This year’s review was a celebration of the 230th birthday of the Constitution.
SYMPOSIUM ON FAMILIES AND RELIGION
13 October 2017
Provo, Utah
Professor Clark made a presentation titled “Beliefs in Family, Family Practices, and Religious Freedom” at the Symposium on Families and Religion. The conference was sponsored by the Ave Maria Law School and BYU Law School’s Marriage and Family Law Research Project.

REPORT OF UN SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR TO THE UNITED NATIONS
23–26 October 2017
New York City, New York
Professor Durham coorganized an event in New York City that was addressed by UN Special Rapporteur Ahmed Shaheed. This event coincided with Shaheed’s presentation on freedom of religion or belief in the world as his annual report to the Third Committee of the United Nations. The report focused on mechanisms for eliminating all forms of religious intolerance.

INTERFAITH RELIGIOUS FREEDOM CONFERENCE
7 November 2017
Detroit, Michigan
Professor Clark participated on a panel of legal scholars who offered various perspectives on the right to religious freedom at a conference sponsored by the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. In addition, she joined Elder Von G. Keetch, general authority seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and Allen Henry Vigneron, the Roman Catholic archbishop of Detroit, to speak at the historic Saints Peter and Paul Jesuit Church at an event sponsored by the J. Reuben Clark Law Society Detroit Chapter and the Michigan Catholic Conference.

FIRST ANNUAL LAW AND RELIGION SYMPOSIUM OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL OF GREATER SEATTLE
13 October 2017
Seattle, Washington
Professor Scharffs presented on religious freedom issues in the United States, focusing on the Masterpiece Cakeshop case scheduled to come before the Supreme Court in 2018.
Visiting Delegations

Under the auspices of the Department of State’s International Visitor Leadership Program, the Center hosts international delegations. These delegations are given the opportunity to learn more about the work of the Center and to ask questions about various aspects of religious freedom and human rights as they pertain to the United States. This year the Center hosted five delegations.

1. In March, the Center met with representatives of the Kurdistan Regional Government’s Ministry of Endowment and Religious Affairs (MERA). Objectives of the visit included helping MERA strengthen interfaith cooperation, examining how MERA can work and interact better with the Iraqi Kurdistan Parliament and community support organizations, and encouraging dialogue between leaders of various faiths.

2. In May, a delegation from Israel visited the Center. Representing various human rights groups, NGOs, and Jewish and Muslim populations, this delegation sought to examine the historical context of human rights advocacy in the United States, to look at the influence of human and civil rights activists on policy, to explore the role of religious organizations and NGOs in advancing U.S. civil rights and equal opportunity, and to analyze a variety of human rights concerns.

3. In September, the Center hosted three delegations. The first delegation was from Saudi Arabia and included judges, professors, and lecturers from various universities. This group was interested in interfaith dialogue; the use of interfaith dialogue as a means of mediation; and academic, economic, religious, and social perspectives on issues relating to various types of intergroup differences, with a view toward promoting tolerance, mutual understanding, and stable, peaceful communities.

4. The second delegation visiting in September was a group of government and educational leaders from Malaysia. They were interested in learning more about the separation of church and state in the U.S. educational system as well as about faith-based curriculum with secular requirements in the United States.

5. The final visit in September was from the foreign minister of Oman. The discussion that took place focused on building bridges, using religious freedom to contribute to peace, and opening interfaith discourse.
The International Advisory Council is critical to the work that the Center does. Under the leadership of IAC chair David Christensen and the members of the Executive Committee, IAC members host international delegates at the annual Law and Religion Symposium, participate in important conferences throughout the world, and share of their time, talents, and other resources to support the cause of freedom of religion or belief. We are grateful for all they do and continue to do.
Several members of the International Advisory Council (IAC) had the opportunity to attend the Center’s Southeast Asia Regional Conference, “The Role of Religion” in Hyderabad, India, on 13-15 January 2017. Following the conference, the members participated in an enrichment extension tour of nearby historical sites. They were able to learn more about the religious liberty concerns and challenges facing South Asia, the work the Center and its partners do in that part of the world, and the incredible culture of India.
Members of the International Advisory Council met in Salt Lake City at the Grand America Hotel in March. The event began with a dinner and a keynote address by Elder Wilford W. Andersen, a general authority seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, on Thursday evening. Elder Andersen, who has leadership responsibilities for the Middle East / Africa North Area, talked about the special challenges in that area, including the struggles of refugees who have fled violence. Despite the bleak situation, he was hopeful as he spoke of refugees receiving aid and transitioning to new lives with the help of others. Elder Andersen was a member of the first graduating class of the BYU Law School and has been a longtime friend of the Center.

Executive Committee member David Christie conducted the Friday morning meeting, which began with a stewardship account by Center staff highlighting key events of 2016 and early 2017. Professor Scharffs then outlined future projects in need of funding. The meeting closed with an address by William F. Asked, associate general counsel for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, who shared copies of a correlated, Church-approved definition of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, who shared.

Several members of the International Advisory Council (IAC) attended the fifth Conference on Law and Religion in Africa, held in Rabat, Morocco, on 27–30 March 2017. Following the conference, IAC members toured parts of Morocco with some of the Center administrators.

In Memory of Gary Anderson

The Center notes the passing of Gary Anderson, a longtime friend of the Center, on 27 May 2017. Gary graduated from Brigham Young University after serving a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Brazil. He earned a law degree from the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law. While working as a partner with San Francisco law firm Vanbrak, Braun & Martel, Gary was on the board of trustees for the BYU Law School, as chairman of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society (JRCLS) for the San Francisco Bay Area, and as international chairman of the JRCLS. He was also induced into the American College of Trial Lawyers. Gary was survived by Lynn, his wife of 57 years and fellow International Advisory Council member, and their children and grandchildren.

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Dr. Ganoune Diop, director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty for the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church, was given the Thomas L. Kane Religious Freedom Award by the J. Reuben Clark Law Society in Philadelphia in February. The award was presented by Elder Lance B. Wickman, general counsel for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and Professor W. Cole Durham, Jr. Recipients of this award exemplify the character and train of Thomas L. Kane—a U.S. general who was influential in the western migration of this award exemplify the character and train of Thomas L. Kane—a U.S. general who was influential in the western migration of the Latter-day Saints—in upholding and defending religious freedom.

Lee Chair

On 15 November 2017, Professor Brett Scharffs was appointed to the distinguished Rex E. Lee Chair, a position created to honor the late Rex E. Lee, former U.S. solicitor general, founding dean of the J. Reuben Clark Law School, and 10th president of Brigham Young University.

Donald Smith, current dean of the J. Reuben Clark Law School, praised Professor Scharffs for his achievements in the field of legal scholarship. Throughout his 35 years of teaching, Professor Scharffs has published in renowned legal journals and has become well known among international legal circles.

Professor Durham introduced Professor Scharffs during the investiture ceremony: “I am confident that Rex [E. Lee] could not be more pleased to have someone of Brett’s qualifications and character occupying this chair and striving to carry on the traditions of quality and high expectations that Rex did so much to found.” He also spoke of Professor Scharffs’s high moral and ethical principles, his influential scholarship, and his contributions to the field of religious freedom, and he said that Professor Scharffs epitomizes the virtues mentioned in Micah 6:8—he does justice, loves mercy, and walks humbly with God.

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GARY ANDERSON

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Professor Durham introduced Professor Scharffs during the investiture ceremony: “I am confident that Rex [E. Lee] could not be more pleased to have someone of Brett’s qualifications and character occupying this chair and striving to carry on the traditions of quality and high expectations that Rex did so much to found.” He also spoke of Professor Scharffs’s high moral and ethical principles, his influential scholarship, and his contributions to the field of religious freedom, and he said that Professor Scharffs epitomizes the virtues mentioned in Micah 6:8—he does justice, loves mercy, and walks humbly with God.

Several members of the International Advisory Council (IAC) attended the fifth Conference on Law and Religion in Africa, held in Rabat, Morocco, on 27–30 March 2017. Following the conference, IAC members toured parts of Morocco with some of the Center administrators and Dr. Jeremy Gunn, professor of law and political science at the University of Rabat; Fez, Morocco.

IN MEMORIAM OF GARY ANDERSON

The Center notes the passing of Gary Anderson, a longtime friend of the Center, on 27 May 2017. Gary graduated from Brigham Young University after serving a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Brazil. He earned a law degree from the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law. While working as a partner with San Francisco law firm Vanbrak, Braun & Martel, Gary was on the board of trustees for the BYU Law School, as chairman of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society (JRCLS) for the San Francisco Bay Area, and as international chairman of the JRCLS. He was also induced into the American College of Trial Lawyers. Gary was survived by Lynn, his wife of 57 years and fellow International Advisory Council member, and their children and grandchildren.

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Dr. Ganoune Diop, director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty for the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church, was given the Thomas L. Kane Religious Freedom Award by the J. Reuben Clark Law Society in Philadelphia in February. The award was presented by Elder Lance B. Wickman, general counsel for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and Professor W. Cole Durham, Jr. Recipients of this award exemplify the character and train of Thomas L. Kane—a U.S. general who was influential in the western migration of the Latter-day Saints—in upholding and defending religious freedom.

Rex E. Lee Chair

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The Center is honored to have a group of internationally recognized law and religion scholars serve on the Academic Advisory Board. We are so grateful for their friendship, support, and contributions to religious freedom throughout the world.

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