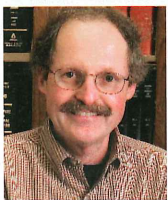


## INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

### FALL 2008 SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS

The Legislative Institute hosted a variety of programs during the fall semester, 2008. Among those events were: a Constitution Day discussion led by Professors Bruce Miller and Giovanna Shay; the 13th Annual Supreme Court Review Conference; the Second Annual Regional Fair Housing Conference; a presentation by Professor Curt Hamakawa '84 on the trip he led to Beijing Olympics; a lecture by Jed Horne, a newsman from New Orleans, addressing Hurricane Katrina; the semiannual sitting of the Massachusetts Appeals Court; and several continuing legal education seminars, cosponsored with the Massachusetts Bar Association.

In September, we held our Third Annual Constitution Day to commemorate the signing of the Constitution on September 17, 1787, which signaled the completion of the drafting for ratification by the states. This year, Professors Bruce Miller and Giovanna Shay addressed the impact of the Constitution on the actions of the Government in fighting terrorism. The springboard for the discussion was the Supreme Court's decision in June 2008, in *Boumediene v. Bush*. In that case, the Court ruled that alien detainees at Guantanamo Bay had a constitutional right to challenge their detention through a writ of *habeas corpus*. Professor Miller, an expert on terrorism, and Professor Shay, an expert on *habeas corpus*, gave an insightful and thought-provoking presentation.



Miller



Shay



Harpaz

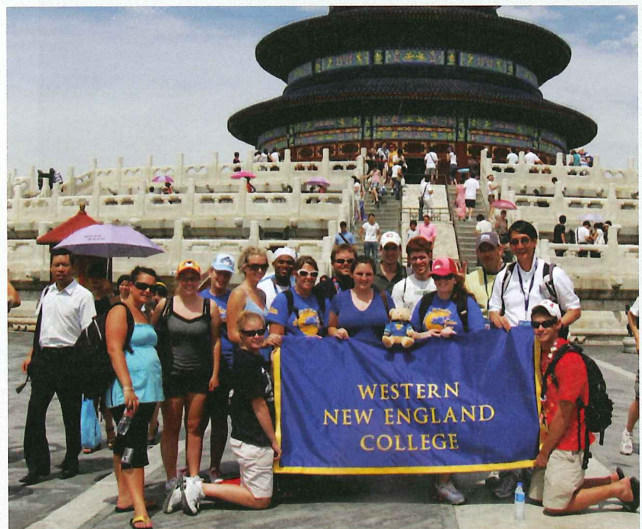


Setty

In November, the Institute hosted the 13th Annual Supreme Court Review Conference. Professors Leora Harpaz, Sudha Setty, Shay, and Miller discussed the principal decisions of the Court's 2007-2008 term. Professor Harpaz addressed the election and campaign finance cases, while Professor Setty examined the *Heller* case in which the Court reviewed the right of the people "to keep and bear arms" under the Second Amendment.

In recent years, the Court has paid increasing attention to death penalty cases. Professor Shay explored the most recent involving the use of lethal injection and imposing the death penalty for the rape of a child. Professor Miller addressed the availability of the writ of *habeas corpus* for detainees at Guantanamo in light of *Boumediene v. Bush*. The program concluded with a discussion among the presenters and the audience.

The Institute also hosted the Second Annual Regional Fair Housing Conference. Organized by the Massachusetts Fair Housing Center and HAP, Inc., the conference presented a range of issues relating to current and historical matters focusing on equal housing opportunity. Speakers addressed, among other topics, predatory lending, the impact of the current housing crisis on minorities, and other timely subjects.



Professor Curt Hamakawa, the Director of the School of Business' Center for International Sport Business, led a group of Western New England College faculty and students to the Beijing Olympics in the summer of 2008. In their presentation at the Law Center, they discussed the thrill of the Olympic Games as well as the exposure they had to Chinese culture and society.

Finally, Jed Horne, city editor of the *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, made a compelling presentation about the impact of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans. He is the author of the award-winning book, *Breach of Faith*. Looking at the crisis through the lens of an experienced newsman, Mr. Horne described in great detail the excruciating period following the devastation left by Katrina.