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*APPEAL is housed at Seattle University School of Law.*



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# APPEAL

ACADEMICS PROMOTING THE PEDAGOGY OF EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY IN LAW

## FROM THE PRESIDENTS' PENS:

Greetings and welcome to APPEAL's first newsletter. We are so excited to report that after just slightly over one year in existence, APPEAL now has over 100 members from twelve countries. In addition, as you will read, we are very proud of the accomplishments of our first year: we brought seven African participants to the Legal Writing Institute Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana, and we brought nearly two tons of donated books to law faculty libraries in East Africa. In addition, we are pleased to announce our next conference – focusing on Southern Africa – which will be held in partnership with the University of Pretoria from July 1 to July 4, 2009. We hope to see you there!

Best regards,

Daniel Ruhweza and Mimi Samuel

*If you have a story idea for the next APPEAL newsletter, please contact Lisa Mazzie Hatlen at [lisa.hatlen@marquette.edu](mailto:lisa.hatlen@marquette.edu).*



From the top: Co-Presidents Daniel Ruhweza of Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, and Mimi Samuel of Seattle University School of Law.

## THE ROOTS OF APPEAL

In March 2007, 50 legal writing academics from 14 American states and seven East African countries met in the beautiful Fairview Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya, to learn from each other the pedagogy of legal writing.

Titled "Conference on the Pedagogy of Legal Writing for Academics in Africa," the four-day program featured presentations from both American and African professors. Some of the most enlightening moments, however, were not in the classroom, but during tea breaks and meals, where participants informally shared their experiences in their schools and in their classrooms. During the final conference session called "Where Do We Go From Here?," conference participants were eager to continue their collaboration and sharing of ideas begun that week. Thus, a new organization was formed, and everyone attending the conference in Nairobi became a charter member.

The new organization was named Academics Promoting the Pedagogy of Effective Advocacy in Law (APPEAL), and its stated mission is to promote "the exchange of ideas, information, and resources about the teaching of legal writing and effective advocacy among academics in the United States and

academics in Africa." Membership has expanded from the initial 50 Nairobi conference attendees to more than 100 members. Members may join one of several committees: Book Exchange Committee; Faculty and Student Exchange Committee; Fundraising Committee; Conference Scholarship Committee; New Member Committee; Newsletter Committee; or Website/Listserv Committee.

APPEAL, housed at Seattle University School of Law, has already made an impact. It sponsored seven African academics to attend the 13th Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute in Indianapolis, Indiana, and it coordinated a large shipment of 3,377 pounds of books to Kenya for distribution to East African Law Schools. (See the stories within this issue.)

For more information on APPEAL, go to <http://legalwritingconference.googlepages.com/appeal> or contact Mimi Samuel, co-president, at [msamuel@seattleu.edu](mailto:msamuel@seattleu.edu).



## AFRICAN ACADEMICS ATTEND LWI CONFERENCE

*By Lisa Mazzie Hatlen  
Marquette University Law School  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

**When American legal writing professors gathered in Indianapolis July 14 through 17, 2008, for the 13th Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute (LWI), seven African legal academics also attended. For many of the participants, the trip to Indianapolis was their first trip to the United States. The learning and cultural opportunities available impressed each of the participants.**

From left: Henry Kibet Mutai, Tushar Kanti Saha, Elizabeth Jane Alividza, Olugbenga Oke-Samuel, Araya Kebede Araya, George Mukundi Wachira and Daniel Ronald Ruhweza.

>>>> In Their Own Words Page 4

**The conference was held in the beautiful Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis. During the conference, attendees could choose from more than 75 different presentations with topics ranging from teaching legal analysis to finding time (and topics) for scholarship, to communicating with millennials, to instilling professionalism in students. In addition, there were a number of social events, including a fun run/walk and a dinner at the Eiteljorg Museum.**

**Elizabeth Jane Alividza**, Judicial Studies Institute, Uganda. In addition to teaching human rights issues, Elizabeth is a registrar in the Courts of Judicature and has worked as a judicial officer since 1994. Elizabeth said “many things” during the conference week were interesting to her, and she would not be able to pick out a single event or session. She said she learned how to improve her legal writing and is motivated now to write something that can be published internationally. Elizabeth said she found Americans to be warm and friendly and she hopes to attend future conferences, perhaps as a presenter.

**Araya Kebede Araya**, Mekelle University Law Faculty, Ethiopia. Araya said that he learned a great deal from the conference, though he wished he could have attended all the sessions. “One had many options,” he said. “[I]t was difficult to select one from the other!” He was impressed with the books the publishers displayed and was able to take away complimentary copies of many of them. He also took advantage of the research lectures the vendors offered. The people were “very friendly.” “Their knowledge and experience on the field is simply impressive.” This was Araya’s first visit to the United States. Though he said the weather that week was hot, Araya said he enjoyed the “clean, green, and attractive” city of Indianapolis. Araya said, “I really appreciate and thank you [APPEAL] on behalf of my

legal research students who will benefit greatly” from his conference attendance. Upon return from the conference, Araya and his colleagues were assigned to review and evaluate legal writing teaching material as part of Ethiopia’s Legal Education Reform. Araya believes he has contributed to making that teaching material better because of his attendance at LWI.

**Henry Kibet Mutai**, Moi University School of Law, Kenya. Henry is a nine-year veteran of teaching and maintains a part-time private legal practice. He said he learned different teaching techniques to try in his classes. “Some of the challenges we face are very similar,” he noted. He enjoyed seeing some familiar faces; many of the people who attended the conference in Nairobi in March 2007 were also in Indianapolis. “It was lovely . . . exchanging ideas on teaching and other experiences.” Henry has family in Indianapolis, and also has traveled to Florida, Georgia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania.

**Olugbenga Oke-Samuel**, Faculty of Law, Adekunle Ajasin University, Nigeria. Gbenga, as he was known, has been teaching for seven years. One of the skills-based courses he teaches is legal writing, so he enjoyed all the presentations he attended and appreciated the opportunity to learn. His visit to Indianapolis was also his first to the United States. “There is much to learn from the organized nature of the U.S. society,” he said.

**Daniel Ronald Ruhweza**, Makerere University Faculty of Law, Uganda. Daniel has been teaching for seven years. He is also an attorney-at-law/advocate of the Courts of Judicature in Uganda, the coordinator of Makerere University’s L.L.M. program in Human Rights & Democratisation, and the Moot Court Coordinator. Also a first-time visitor to the United States, Daniel was impressed by the Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis building and its legal resources. He said he learned how to incorporate various teaching styles, such as using non-verbal communication and using audio-visual media. He also learned about live grading. The most interesting things, Daniel noted, were learning informally about the United States through conversations with LWI attendees and sharing experiences. “Thank you so much for making it possible for me to get [to Indianapolis]. I have

learnt so much, met many people and have been challenged to improve my teaching style.”

**Tushar Kanti Saha**, National University of Lesotho, Lesotho. Tushar, from India, teaches in Lesotho. He’s been teaching for 22 years. Tushar said he learned many things at the conference, among which was the search for “innovative methodology” in teaching, regardless of “technological advantage.” “I now know many changes can be made even under trying conditions if energised by devotion and commitment.” This was Tushar’s first time in the United States, but he would love to return. Tushar found the conference “a great event”; he’s motivated to teach in a United States law school “to introduce [his] own innovative ideas and methodology in legal teaching.”

**George Mukundi Wachira**, South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights & International Law, South Africa. George is a native Kenyan working in South Africa. For the past seven years, he has been researching constitutional and international human rights law. George notes that the conference taught him “[e]ffective legal analysis and the importance of adoption of ingenious teaching methodology to keep students motivated” and “[t]he power of modern technology to transform and facilitate effective teaching of legal writing.” He was pleased to learn that it is possible to incorporate legal writing into “mainstream legal courses” because this is the situation most African law schools face: large numbers of students and limited resources. George has visited the United States before, visiting Atlanta and New York.

**The Africans were able to attend the conference because of donations from the Legal Writing Institute; Drexel University, Earle Mack School of Law; Hofstra University School of Law; The John Marshall Law School – Chicago; Marquette University Law School; St. John’s University Law School; Seattle University Law School; South Texas College of Law; Stetson University College of Law; Touro Law Center; Leslie Rose, Golden Gate University School of Law; and Rachel Croskery-Roberts, University of Michigan School of Law.**



From left: Boeing's Marty Bentrrott, Francis Musila of Kenya Airways, Lori Lamb and Anne Enquist of Seattle University School of Law's Legal Writing Program, and Boeing's Gordon McHenry, a member of the Seattle University Board of Trustees, stand in a warehouse with the stacks of books that were sent to African law schools.

## AFRICAN LAW SCHOOLS RECEIVE A TON OF BOOKS – LITERALLY!

Among the resources that African law schools lack are law books. APPEAL saw this need and worked to fill it. In August 2008, more than one ton of legal books arrived in Kenya for distribution to law schools in Africa.

During the summer, more than 20 law schools across the country collected law books and shipped those books to Seattle University Law School where the books were stored until they could be shipped to Africa. Seattle University Law School Associate Director and Professor of Legal Writing Anne Enquist shared her office with nearly one hundred boxes of books throughout the summer months.

Enquist worked with the Boeing Company to arrange for the boxes of books to be transported for free on a new Kenya Airways plane set to be delivered to Nairobi. On August 7, 2008, that Boeing plane left Seattle for Nairobi with 111 boxes of law books, weighing nearly 3,400 pounds.

Dr. Henry Kibet Mutai, lecturer at Moi University School of Law and point person in Kenya for the shipment, has been busy distributing the books to African universities, including Catholic University of East Africa Faculty of Law (Kenya), Kenyatta University (Kenya), Tumaini School of Law (Tanzania), Uganda Christian University (Uganda), Kenya School of Law (Kenya), Strathmore University (Kenya), University of Nairobi Faculty of Law (Kenya), and Moi University School of Law (Kenya). Other institutions have expressed an interest in collecting books. These are the University of Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), the Zanzibar Law Society (Zanzibar), the Judicial Studies Institute (Uganda), Makerere University (Uganda), and Adekunle University (Nigeria).

Dr. Mutai said, "Each and every book that we receive will be appreciated and will make a significant addition to our library resources. At the moment, our students and staff are forced to learn and teach in an environment where very few books are shared between very many students in cramped

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surroundings. With these books, students will have more books available for them to consult and faculty will be able to recommend a greater variety of books to the students." Daniel R. Ruhweza, attorney and lecturer-at-law at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, agreed: "The book donation will certainly go a long way in helping our students gain access to more legal materials from an international perspective."

Michele Butts, Atlanta's John Marshall Law School, and Anne Enquist and Lori Lamb, Seattle University Law School, put in many hours of their time to make the shipment possible. APPEAL thanks them.

## KENYAN EXPERIENCES AMERICAN LAW SCHOOL AS A PROFESSOR

*By Edwin Abuya  
 School of Law Moi University  
 Eldoret, Kenya  
 2007-08 Visiting Professor  
 Seattle University School of Law*

My association with Academics Promoting the Pedagogy of Effective Advocacy in Law (APPEAL) began in March 2007 at the inaugural conference for legal writing academics, which was held in Nairobi, Kenya. From that conference I was given a unique opportunity to not only become further involved in some of APPEAL's activities, but also to work as a visiting legal writing professor at Seattle University School of Law.

The transition from Moi University Faculty of Law to Seattle University was a study in contrasts. Moi University is located in Eldoret, in the western highlands of Kenya, approximately 193 miles northwest of Nairobi, 87 miles east of Uganda, and 8,858 miles from Seattle. Eldoret is Kenya's fifth largest town and, according to a 1999 census, has a population of 193,830. It has a growing professional community and a large student population, of approximately 15,000, owing primarily to the presence of Moi University. Aside from the university, Eldoret is also known for its long-distance runners. Its

location, at 2100 meters above sea level, makes the region an excellent training ground for middle and long-distance runners. Eldoret is a part of Kenya rarely frequented by safari tour buses. However, that isn't to say that it lacks its very own unique tourist attraction: a cheese factory, which produces locally made cheeses and ice cream. In contrast, Seattle is a major coastal port city with a municipal population of approximately three times that of Eldoret. It is famous for its rain, its coffee, and its companies such as Boeing, Microsoft, and Amazon, which help make the city one of the wealthiest in the union. The comparisons between Eldoret and Seattle couldn't be more different.

Differences between Eldoret and Seattle extend into, and are particularly evident, in the academic arena. Unlike Seattle University law students, law students at Moi University lack a comprehensive library and on-line resources. The Faculty of Law Library only recently received a free, hard-copy subscription to a number of key international law journals and on-line access to JSTOR<sup>1</sup>, but access to a wider range of research material remains limited. Unlike Seattle University law students, the law students at Moi University have

<sup>1</sup> JSTOR is Journal Storage, a journal database much like HeinOnline, though JSTOR goes beyond legal journals and includes journals with a social science focus.

very limited access to computers, few own their own computers, and the majority of students pay to have their assignments typed for them. Moi University students do not have access to on-line programs such as TWEN, which makes course co-ordination quick and easy, so course materials and communication between professors and students is done via hard-copy, making the learning process both lengthy and cumbersome.

There are, however, some similarities, particularly in the vision and objectives of Moi University Faculty of Law, Seattle University School of Law, and APPEAL. Each supports effective teaching, research, and legal advocacy, locally and internationally. And each aims at harnessing links between academics and higher-learning institutions in order to promote the exchange of ideas, information, and resources. Equally, law students at Seattle University and Moi University share a common desire to excel and establish links with academics in their chosen field.

My year out of Kenya has almost come to an end. It has been a very productive year in which I have learned much. I hope that my students and colleagues have equally learned from me. From this experience, I will encourage colleagues to forge collaborative relationships, particularly within Africa, and, wherever possible, themselves embrace exchange opportunities.

## IN THEIR OWN WORDS:

### Araya Kebede (Ethiopia)

I am grateful to APPEAL, the Legal Writing Institute, the Individuals and Faculties/Institutions who have contributed for the realization of enabling African colleagues to participate in the Conference. Professor Mimi Samuel and my host Janet Dickson: thank you for your kindness and I appreciate your patience. I understand that APPEAL is really dedicated to promoting justice and the rule of law in the world community.

I appreciate the host, Indiana University, School of Law – Indianapolis, and the other organizers for making a wonderful and successful conference. To my knowledge, this Legal Writing Institute Conference, 2008 was the first in its size. It was colorful and well organized.

Personally, I have benefited a lot. Therefore, I can say that the purpose of my travel of more than 15,000 miles is really achieved. I got more than what I expected.

Currently Ethiopia is undergoing a Legal Education Reform. Immediately after the Legal Writing Institute Conference, 2008; A Workshop on Evaluating Teaching Materials was organized by the Ethiopian Justice and Legal System Research Institute. In the workshop I along with my colleagues was assigned to review and evaluate a Legal Writing course teaching material. It was good opportunity as it enabled me to know what I have gained in the Legal Writing Institute Conference, 2008. I believe I have contributed for the enrichment of the material. If this is true, it is because of the conference.

The professors from all corners of the country's Law Schools and other countries were very friendly. Their knowledge and experience on the field is simply impressive. I have learned a lot. The selected presenters had demonstrated a good command of knowledge and experience on their respective articles/presentations. They were so humorous as well.

I was surprised to see so many female professors. It is the first time that I see in a conference that male participants were outnumbered by female. I do not know the reason. I have not seen such before in my life unless the theme of a meeting or conference is of females only.

Generally, I found the conference to be an expression of the commitment of APPEAL: sharing ideas, expertise, and resources related to teaching effective legal writing and oral advocacy with the goal of promoting clear communication.

### Henry Mutai (Kenya):

My experience at the Legal Writing Conference was one that will stay with me for a long time. The first thing that struck me was the amount of effort that had been put into organising the conference in order to make sure that everything was ready on time and that the programme ran smoothly. The social events such as the welcoming cocktails and the Conference Dinner provided ideal opportunities to interact informally and get to know other participants better.

The conference sessions themselves were extremely informative - probably the hardest part of the day was deciding which sessions to attend. Some of the papers that I found particularly interesting were the ones on the preparation of effective course outlines, making the classroom experience more interactive and dealing with 'millenials'. It was interesting to see how many of the issues that we have to deal with in our classes here in Africa are the same ones that professors

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## NEXT APPEAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR JULY 2009

*By Christine Venter  
Notre Dame Law School  
Notre Dame, Indiana*

APPEAL (Academics Promoting the Pedagogy of Effective Advocacy in Law) and the University of Pretoria Faculty of Law will host the "Conference on Promoting the Teaching of Legal Writing in Southern Africa" from July 1 to July 4, 2009, in Pretoria, South Africa. The conference will focus on the development of curricula in legal writing for law faculties in Southern Africa, with particular emphasis on handling large, undergraduate class loads and teaching to students with a variety of language and

educational backgrounds. This conference follows APPEAL's successful inaugural conference held last year in Nairobi, Kenya.

There are various optional pre-conference field trips planned including visits to the Apartheid Museum, Constitutional Hill, High Court and/or Magistrate Court in Pretoria, as well as to Pilanesburg Game Park. Consider planning a trip to Cape Town while in the country.

The conference fee for U.S. participants is \$125; African participants will not be charged a conference fee. As the date draws near, there will be information posted on the website, <http://legalwritingconference.googlepages.com/appeal>,

and sent by e-mail to the APPEAL listserv. For more information, contact Mimi Samuel at [msamuel@seattleu.edu](mailto:msamuel@seattleu.edu).

### About Pretoria:

Pretoria is located in the northern part of South Africa. It is one of South Africa's three capital cities, and is only about 50 km/31 miles away from Johannesburg, another of South Africa's major cities. Besides being home to the University of Pretoria, the University of South Africa (UNISA) is located there. Rugby is a very popular sport in this part of the country, and Loftus Versveld is Pretoria's well-known rugby stadium. (Some of the World Cup 2010 soccer matches will be played there.) In July, as it is winter, the nights are likely to be cool (4 to 10C/40's, 50's F) while the days will probably be comfortably warm (21C and up/70's F) and sunny. There already has been a lot of interest in the conference, so mark your calendars.

### About the University of Pretoria:

The law school offers a variety of undergraduate and graduate degrees. Information about the law school is available at <http://web.up.ac.za/default.asp?ipkCategoryID=47>.

The University of Pretoria was originally known as the Transvaal University College. The colloquial name of the university, Tuks or Tukkies, was derived from the acronym of the college – TUC. The University celebrated its 100th anniversary in February 2008. UP currently has more than 50,000 students and has become one of the leading higher education institutions on the African continent.

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Special thanks to **Ryan Barnes**, Print and Web Media Manager at Seattle University School of Law, for the design and production of this newsletter.

in the US are facing - only on a different scale! I intend to apply some of the lessons that I learnt in my own classes, especially with regard to my course outlines and trying to engage the students' interest through activities like quizzes. I also intend to stay in touch with all the APPEAL members that attended the conference as well as a number of other professors who expressed an interest in visiting Moi University Law School at some stage in the future. It might not be possible to have them over this coming academic year, but possibly something could be worked out for the 2009/10 academic year.

The final thing I took away from the conference was the incredible dedication of our colleagues in the US to the cause of Legal Writing. In most African universities, we do not have lecturers who focus solely on Legal Writing but instead lecturers will be assigned to teach the course as one of two or possibly even three other courses that they will be teaching. Hopefully, if we recruit more staff such specialisation will become possible.

All in all, the conference was a wonderful experience.

#### **Daniel Ruhweza (Uganda):**

I have often argued that anyone who is facilitating in the teaching of the law in this 21st century, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, will most likely agree that save for the very large numbers of students in the classroom, the most frustrating thing for a law don is what we consider as the poor quality of writing among the students. However, this seems to be the complaint of most lawyers, judges and clients alike. If it were not so, the number of cases brought to court for interpretation of either poorly drafted laws or contracts would be greatly reduced. Worse still, the challenge of writing for legal writing experts is that you are always afraid of the peer reviews. Someone out there is going to comment about your punctuation, diction or tone. That tends to make one tense and for me, very tense indeed. However, since I am thousands of miles away, I hope the criticism will be less piercing by the time it reaches me...email not withstanding

My fears aside, it gives me great pleasure to share my experiences with the reader about my journeying to foreign lands like Odysseus in search of what many in my country, even lawyers, hardly know or (possibly) care about--legal writing! Unlike Odysseus, mine is a pleasant journey of love, friendship, food and warm hugs from a lovely group of legal writing folk that have made me rethink about what it really means to be a lawyer.

My journey starts, not in Indianapolis, not in Washington DC, not in Milwaukee at Marquette, but in Nairobi, Kenya, our Swahili speaking neighbour in the east. This is where I attended my very first legal writing conference for Academics in Africa in March 2007 and met some of the loveliest people on the face of the earth. Most of whom I am happy to know on first name basis. At the end of that conference, I returned home with grand ideas of a better world with legal writing. I recall getting inspired; among others, on the use of classical rhetoric to teach persuasion ( Prof. Susanne

Rabe), writing effective paragraphs and sentences (Prof. Lisa Mazzie Hatlen), writing concisely and precisely (Janet Dickson), Legal research (Prof. Laurel Oates). I was specifically intrigued by the Letter from a Birmingham Jail, which was written by the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., not just because of the lessons it gives in the use of tone and persuasive language in writing, but also about my own personal goals to do something more meaningful with my life. Indeed by the end of that year, I became more involved in my faculty by volunteering to coordinate the LL.M. in Human Rights and Democratization program which is run jointly with the Universities of Pretoria, Western Cape, Ghana, Cairo and Cameroon, represent my faculty at the national law Society Committee on Training and Professional Development, as well as be available to participate in the student activities like the Christian Union, Magazine, conferences and so on.

As a follow up to the Nairobi Conference, I subsequently attended a short course on Effective legal writing at the International Law Institute (IL-U) here in Kampala, Uganda under the instruction of Professors Laurel Oates and Mimi Samuel. By the end of that year, a new organization, APPEAL (Academics Promoting the Pedagogy of Effective Advocacy in Law) was born, thanks to the ingenuity and amazing work of Professors Laurel Oates and Mimi Samuel who were also very instrumental in interesting us in the legal writing conference in the first place. Thus, the concept of my maiden trip to the "U.S of A" was born and my dream to visit (if I may), Obama country realized.

I shall always remember Indianapolis, not just because of the high quality of organization exhibited, but for two events that impressed upon me greatly. One was the tour of the United States District Court House for the southern district of Indiana, where, thanks to my host, Prof. Lisa Mazzie Hatlen, I got to see this very impressive and historically rich building filled with amazing art works, mosaics, statues, and marble depicting various aspects of American legal history. The attention to detail and quality impressed upon me how important the rule of law was to the American people such that they gave it the very best of their resources. The second event was "lunch" at about 8 pm (since it was bright day light), hosted by Professors Robin Boyle and Jane Scott from St. John's University specifically for Elizabeth Alividza and I, (the delegates from Uganda), where we were joined by some other legal writing professors like Juli Campagna. What was most astounding about this dinner was that I had my very first lecture in American history, how the united states relate with each other, American elections, morals issues on homosexuality and the first amendment, to mention but a few. At the end of the dinner, I was far more enriched about American affairs than I had ever been before, and my desire to pursue graduate studies in America was further enriched.

Now as I await the opening of the University for the first semester of this new academic year, I cannot wait to try out my new "skills" and ideas on how to become a better lecturer and communicate to these Millennials (a concept I learnt at the conference). Indeed, this eye-opening lecture delivered by Professors

Janet Dickson and Mary Bowman, following up from Tracy McGaugh's earlier presentation enlightened me on the various mistakes and assumptions I have been making with my students, thus equipping me to inter alia set ground rules, effectively explain to and guide my students into becoming real professionals. Whereas, I do not teach legal writing per se, I do incorporate aspects of it in my doctrinal subjects: Constitutional Law and History, Banking Law and Negotiable Instruments, Criminology and Penology, as well as the Law of Evidence. I also supervise undergraduate final year theses as well as being a resource person in Clinical Legal Education at the Law Development Centre, Kampala, Uganda. Yes, all those subjects involving hundreds of students, sometimes I have to make over 600 scripts (which explains why I had to rush back here instead of enjoying the America I have dreamt about for so long—explains why I really need to come back when I am less busy—wonder when that will be anyways).

I was also thrilled to realize that there have been things that I have done which I thought were only unique to me, but was encouraged to realize that they are practiced by many in this noble profession. Such include the use of political speeches, courtroom arguments and other historical events as teaching tools (Prof. Rachael Croskery-Roberts); ethics of story telling in litigation (Prof. Steve Johansen). I also learnt helpful tips of dealing with students who take me for granted (Prof. Allison Ortlieb and Prof. Susan Thrower). In spite of the financial challenges we have in Uganda, I am happy that we can still incorporate new ideas to make us better facilitators, and our students, better participants. For example, I now know how important it is to set ground rules at the beginning of the course, trying to work with disruptive students, being mindful of race or ethnicity in the classroom, and the importance of using real world documents in teaching of writing.

I should also note that I did attend one of the lunch time special sessions on Mooting (Prof. Jim Dimitri), mainly because I have been given the task of handling the Moot Court affairs of our faculty and indeed just before arriving in Indianapolis, I escorted a team of our students to Pretoria, South Africa, for the 17th All African Moot Court Competition. I was thus glad to meet colleagues who had excelled in the art of Moot Court advising and who had escorted their teams to almost each and every moot court competition worth mentioning. I should point out that I am in touch with Prof. Dimitri who is advising me on how to do so.

In conclusion, there aren't enough words to express my most sincere thanks to Marquette Law School for financing my travel to Indianapolis and to the Legal Writing Institute for waiving my conference fees. The knowledge I received, as detailed above, was immeasurable, the contacts I made were priceless, and the skills learnt were indeed very eye opening and educative. I am sure that I will put such knowledge to very good use, starting in two weeks' time, when I make my opening statement to my 1Ls (a term I learnt at Indianapolis) when the new year commences.