
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF FAMILY LAW



Published by the International Society of Family Law by Professor Robin Fretwell Wilson, Newsletter Editor, Roger and Stephany Joslin Professor of Law and Director, Family Law and Policy Program, University of Illinois College of Law, email: wils@illinois.edu

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UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Regional Conference

The International Society of Family Law North American Regional Conference 2018 will be held on April 27-28, 2018 at the University of Minnesota Law School.

Symposium and Executive Council Meeting

The Symposium “The Influence of International Human Rights Bodies on The Evolution of Domestic Family Law,” will be held on May 4-5, 2018 in Strasbourg, France. The Executive Council meeting will take place on May 5.

Hugues Fulchiron
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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Fundamental rights are increasingly important in the law of individuals and in family law: in some respects, the contemporary family law is reconstructed from the rights and freedoms of individuals. The phenomena of internationalization and globalization add to this confused reversal of things. The international bodies responsible for ensuring the protection of human rights (international or regional courts, monitoring committees, etc.) exercise, through their decisions, their reports or their recommendations, an increasing influence on national rights, even if family law is still tightly linked to national identities. These developments are particularly noticeable in Europe because of the combination of forces of the European Union on the one hand, and the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) on the other. However, a similar phenomenon may be perceived in other countries in the world.

It is this play of influences and tensions that will be analyzed during the conference organized by the ISFL in Strasbourg on May 11th. The choice of Strasbourg is symbolic. By its jurisprudence, the ECtHR has a profound influence on European rights and its decisions extend far beyond the member States of the Council of Europe. The Court is also subject to criticism: some dispute its role in the name of State sovereignty or the respect for democracy. Yet, at a time when urgency and necessity could quickly make us forget that European societies have rebuilt themselves on the basis of respect for human rights, the role of the Court is more important than ever before.

At the opening of the conference, the members of the Board of Directors of the ISFL will be received at the Court: this will be an opportunity to know more about the institution and its missions. It will also be an opportunity to develop links between the ISFL and the major international organizations in accordance with the mandate given to me last August.

Hugues Fulchiron
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REPORT OF THE TREASURER

2017 was a successful year as the ISFL World conference held in Amsterdam in July 2017 has brought the Society a profit of 50,000 euro.

M.V. Antokolskaia
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Income and Expense of the International Society of Family Law

		2017	2016	2015
		Actual	Actual	Actual
Income and Expenses				
Income	Interest ING Savings Account	99.31	348.49	464.81
	Value Increase Robeco Investments	1,799.41	1,037.19	997.88
	Transfer from PayPal AUD account	1,453.50		
	Conference Income	5,550.00		
	Deposit North American Regional Council	442.99		
	Membership Fees ING	6,742.00	2,072.50	3,020.81
	Membership Fees PayPal	1,965.00	6,317.50	8,875.00
Total Income		18,052.21	9,775.68	13,358.50
Expenses	Bank costs ING	306.40	153.52	187.21
	Bank costs PayPal	91.07	289.95	412.99
	Bank costs Stripe	142.26		
	Chamber of Commerce subscription		50.00	
	Deposit North American Regional Council			1,769.13
	ExCo Meeting Paris			2,297.44
	Confence Amsterdam 2017	6,768.18		
	ISBN numbers			264.38
	International Survey	9,000.00	10,449.32	13,077.24
	Refund Bahamian Conference			574.53
	Conference Cost		1,597.45	
	PATRICK PARKINSON NSW 2120 THORN		293.69	
	Registration ISFL notary costs		756.25	665.50
	Assistance Treasurer	1,500.00	2,125.00	1,500.00
	Website / Internet Cost Stripe Account	2,289.04		581.32
Total Expenses		20,096.95	15,715.18	21,329.74
	Result	(2,044.74)	(5,939.50)	(7,971.24)
	(income minus expense)			
Bank balances per year end	ING Business Account	12,837.97	12,710.36	3,063.09
	ING Savings Account	21,447.80	21,348.49	26,000.00
	PayPal	0.03	4,071.10	16,043.55
	ROBECO Investments:			
	Robeco - EUR G	16,821.22	14,995.42	14,037.60
	Robeco Global Total Return Bond Fund FH EUR	23,480.00	23,383.34	23,187.87
	Spaartegoed	240.07	363.12	479.22
	Total Bank Accounts	74,827.09	76,871.83	82,811.33
	difference as per previous year	(2,044.74)	(5,939.50)	(7,971.24)

M.V. Antokolskaia

17 april 2018

REPORT OF THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

This edition of the Newsletter features three brief articles about family law changes in China, the Netherlands and South Africa for the “What’s New?” section. Your reports are particularly welcome in the intervals between World Congresses and we continue to learn much from you. We would love to have others also write about developments of interest in their countries in the fall. Contributors may explore specific topics that they believe would be interesting to an international audience. Country reports offer an excellent opportunity for newer scholars to become known to an international audience of family law colleagues, so we encourage our newer members to contribute as well. For the fall newsletter, we ideally would receive your report, news or announcement by October 15, 2018. We also continue our Comparative Law series, working this time from a child support problem offered by Thomas Oldham, University of Houston. These brief family law questions and your “answers” from your countries’ perspective and using your bodies of law are informative but also useful for comparative family law. Please let us know if you find them valuable. If you have a problem to offer for future editions, I would be grateful to hear from you.

If you change your email address, could you please amend your entry in the directory on the website, or email your new email address to Jo Miles jkm33@cam.ac.uk. As always, I and the Executive Council welcome comments about the general format of the newsletter.

Robin Fretwell Wilson, Editor
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REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SURVEY EDITOR

Dear Friends,

As you may know, I took over Survey Editorship from Bill Atkin in 2017. I edited the final volume published by Jordans (2017) and, with the help of Marsha Garrison, Masha Antokolskaia, Jo Miles, and Robin Wilson negotiated the new contract with Intersentia that begins with publication of the 2018 volume. Late in March, 2018, the Survey had commitments from 28 authors. By then, I had received manuscripts from 15, and have sent revision suggestions back to them. The completed manuscript abstracts have been sent to Dominique for translation. My commitment with Intersentia is to have all copy to them by May 1. I will need to have a number of pieces (at least two, possibly more) peer reviewed. I hope to continue asking EC members to help with this task.

There were many members of the Society, including some authors and some EC members, who did not receive copies of the 2017 survey when it was published in August. I have tried hard to get Jordans to send these out individually and believe I have now been successful. It is critical that they have the correct addresses, which come from the website.

Margaret F. Brinig, General Editor
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REPORT OF THE WEBMASTER

The ISFL website is in the process of undergoing some changes. We've done a general "spring clean" of the site, revised several of the pages, added new content, improved the clarity of membership information, and done lots of other work that we hope will improve navigation around the site.

Recent uploads include abstracts of the 2017 Survey chapters in both English and French, and the latest copies of our newsletter. You'll also find a preview of the wonderful new cover design for the 2018 Survey, which will be published for the first time by Intersentia this year!

More changes are in prospect, so watch this space... We are particularly excited about a project that we have currently in development to substantially enhance the functionality of the ISFL website directory. This will provide the facility for members to include a brief description of their research and teaching interests within family law, information about their language competencies, and a link to their personal/institutional webpages. We hope that these changes will help members of the ISFL to connect with colleagues working in similar areas, so that you can all exchange ideas between conferences!

Particular thanks are due to Tom Parkinson, who did sterling work as website administrator in the past year, and to Patrick Parkinson for taking back the reins recently. We are on the lookout for a new administrator, who will need to have good IT and English language skills – let us know if you have anyone who might fit the bill! Thanks also to the small team who helped review and update the content of the site in the last year, including Kathryn O'Sullivan (Ireland) and Frederik Swennen (Belgium).

Jo Miles and Robin Fretwell Wilson, website content editors
Patrick Parkinson, website admin (acting!)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Readers with an interest in privacy and confidentiality in the context of marriage and the household will find much valuable discussion in two articles which are forthcoming in Volume Eight of the International Journal of the Jurisprudence of the Family: Professor Nadir Özdemir *My Diary is Your Diary: The Right to Privacy in a Marriage in Turkey* and Professor Inés Sanchez-Ventura, *The Exercise of Minor Children's Rights of Personality on Social Media: An Examination of the Spanish Legal Context*. The articles are now obtainable on line; subscription information is available from HeinOnline and from the International Academy for the Study of the Jurisprudence of the Family website (<http://webpages.uidaho.edu/iasjf/>).

Scott Fitzgibbon

CONFERENCES AND CALL FOR PAPERS

On 25 and 26 June 2018 Cambridge Family Law will host a conference on ‘The Law and Practice of Surrogacy,’ organised jointly with the Academy of European Law (ERA) and supported by the International Academy of Family Law (IAFL) at the University of Cambridge. This conference will discuss the legal consequences of the rise in surrogacy arrangements and, in particular, reproductive tourism. Further information and conference registration can be found at <https://www.family.law.cam.ac.uk/law-and-practice-surrogacy-conference-2018> or www.era.int/?127290&en.

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FAMILY LAW AROUND THE WORLD: WHAT’S NEW?



NEWS FROM CHINA

Seminar of the Succession Law Draft of Chinese Civil Code

On April 8, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. the seminar of the Succession Law Draft of Chinese Civil Code was held at the meeting room on the fourth floor of the golden valley building in Harbin city, China. The meeting was organized by the Inheritance Law Team of Chinese Civil Code that led by the Chinese Law Society and the Law School of Heilongjiang University, China.

More than 10 experts and scholars attended the meeting came from Renmin University of China, Southwest University of Political Science and Law, Jilin University, Tianjin University, Shandong University, Heilongjiang University etc. Professor Chen Wei works in Southwest University of Political Science and Law and Professor WANG Geya works in Heilongjiang University that they are two vice presidents of the Chinese Marriage and Family Law Research Society, as members of the Team to attend the meeting. Everyone spoke and expressed their views, and contributed to the compilation of the Inheritance Law of Chinese Civil Code.

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NEWS FROM THE NETHERLANDS

Hague Conference Special Commission to Review the Child Abduction and Child Protection Conventions

Delegates and observers from more than sixty nations and fourteen non-governmental organizations met in The Hague from 10 -17 October 2017 to consider the practical operation of ISBN: 978-0-9964805-1-2

Faculty Edited

the 1980 Child Abduction Convention and the 1996 Child Protection Convention. The ISFL has observer status, and we had the privilege of attending these meetings as observers. The following is our brief report; more detailed information is available on the Hague Conference website both in English ([here](#)) and en français ([ici](#)), including the reports and other documents circulated to participants, and the final Conclusions & Recommendations.

1980 Convention: The first two and the last two days of the Commission meeting were devoted to the Abduction Convention, including a review of developments since the prior Special Commission meetings in 2011-12. Nigel Lowe and Victoria Stephens presented their statistical survey of applications made under the Convention in 2015 based on data from 72 contracting states; their report is available on the website linked above. The topics discussed by the Commission included delays in return under the Convention, the use of Article 15 requests, and the legal basis for direct judicial communication within the context of the International Hague Network of Judges

1996 Convention During the third and fourth days of the meeting, the Special commission focused on the 1996 Convention, delegates discussed the interaction of the two conventions, cooperation among central authorities and the judicial role under the 1996 Convention, and the application of the 1996 Convention to unaccompanied and separated children.

Working Groups During the meeting, the Special Commission considered new areas for work in support of the conventions, and reviewed the progress of several projects being carried out by special working groups. These included:

- Practical Guide to cross-border recognition and enforcement of agreements reached in international child disputes, including agreements reached through mediation, presented by Professor Paul Beaumont, chair of the Experts' Group.
- The Draft Guide to Good Practice on Article 13(1)(b) of the Abduction Convention, prepared by a working group chaired by Chief Justice Diana Bryant, about which differing views were expressed..

At the Hague Conference's annual Council on General Affairs and Policy meeting in March 2018, the Council endorsed a proposal for the family agreements experts' group to meet again in June 2018, and the Article 13(1)(b) working group to meet again in September 2018. The revised guides will be circulated to Hague Conference members afterward for their comments, and then submitted to the Council for its 2019 meeting.

INCADAT The Permanent Bureau launched the enhanced version of this database (of decisions under the 1980 Convention) and reported plans to increase the geographical coverage and examine the possibility of including 1996 Convention cases.

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NEWS FROM SOUTH AFRICA

ISFL Members are invited to contact Helen Kruuse (h.kruuse@ru.ac.za) should they be interested in attending and/or presenting at the South African Law Teachers colloquium held annually in September. While the colloquium (held over 2 days) tends to focus on issues in a South African family law context, ISFL members are encouraged to tap into common themes and possible collaboration with South African law teachers. Past colloquiums have dealt with both substance and teaching in family law, for example, how to decolonise the family law curriculum; and dealing with fairness in matrimonial disputes.

Helen Kruuse
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COMPARATIVE LAW PROBLEM & COUNTRY RESPONSES

Thanks to Thomas Oldham, University of Houston, for generating this problem for discussion.

1. Husband and wife have 2 children age 2 and 6. Husband's gross monthly income is \$10,000, while wife, the primary caretaker, earns \$3,000 monthly. The parties have been married 10 years. The husband is age 40, while the wife is 35. Husband has accrued \$250,000 in a 401(k) pension during marriage. They purchased a home early in the marriage and it has equity of \$150,000. They plan to sell their house in connection with their divorce and both will live in rental housing. The father will have the children 25% of all overnights during the year. Day care costs are \$500 per month, and health insurance for the children will cost \$300 per month.

a) How much child support will the father have to pay? Will he also have to contribute toward the day care fees and health insurance?

b) How would the father's child support obligation be impacted, if at all, if he has the children 35% of all nights?

c) How will the pension interest and home sale proceeds be divided?

d) Will the father also have to pay spousal support to the mother? If so, in what amount and for how long?

e) Will the mother or the children qualify for government support? If so, what kind of support? Will some or all of the father's child support obligation be guaranteed by the government?

2. Husband and wife have been married 25 years. Husband's gross monthly income is \$10,000, while wife earns \$5000. They have raised one child together who is now an adult. The husband

and wife have accrued during marriage pension funds amounting to \$1,000,000. They have equity in their home of \$500,000. The husband is now 55 years old and the wife is age 50. They plan to sell their home and live in rental housing.

a) How will the pension accounts and the home equity be divided?

b) Will the husband have to pay any spousal support to the wife? if so, in what amount and for what duration?

c) Will the wife qualify for any government support?

3. Would the result in Question #2 be handled in a different manner if the parties never married?



ANSWER FROM BRAZIL

1. Husband and wife have 2 children age 2 and 6. Husband's gross monthly income is \$10,000, while wife, the primary caretaker, earns \$3,000 monthly. The parties have been married 10 years. The husband is age 40, while the wife is 35. Husband has accrued \$250,000 in a 401(k) pension during marriage. They purchased a home early in the marriage and it has equity of \$150,000. They plan to sell their house in connection with their divorce and both will live in rental housing. The father will have the children 25% of all overnights during the year. Day care costs are \$500 per month, and health insurance for the children will cost \$300 per month.

a) How much child support will the father have to pay? Will he also have to contribute toward the day care fees and health insurance?

In Brazilian legal system, to determine the amount of the child support, not only the values received by the couple are verified, but the analysis of the possibility and necessity of the one who pays and receives pension.

b) How would the father's child support obligation be impacted, if at all, if he has the children 35% of all nights?

The child support obligation and the child visitation regime are not linked.

c) How will the pension interest and home sale proceeds be divided?

It depends on the matrimonial property scheme that the couple had chosen to marry.

d) Will the father also have to pay spousal support to the mother? If so, in what amount and for how long?

It depends on the wife's need to maintain the standard of living she got when married. This pension will be for a limited time until the woman can re-enter the market.

- e) *Will the mother or the children qualify for government support? If so, what kind of support? Will some or all of the father's child support obligation be guaranteed by the government?*

This question does not apply in Brazilian legal system.

2. *Husband and wife have been married 25 years. Husband's gross monthly income is \$10,000, while wife earns \$5000. They have raised one child together who is now an adult. The husband and wife have accrued during marriage pension funds amounting to \$1,000,000. They have equity in their home of \$500,000. The husband is now 55 years old and the wife is age 50. They plan to sell their home and live in rental housing.*
- a) *How will the pension accounts and the home equity be divided?*

It depends on the matrimonial property scheme that the couple had chosen to marry.

- b) *Will the husband have to pay any spousal support to the wife? if so, in what amount and for what duration?*

It depends on the wife's need to maintain the standard of living she got when married. This pension will be for a limited time until the woman can re-enter the market.

- c) *Will the wife qualify for any government support?*

This question does not apply in Brazilian legal system.

3. *Would the result in Question #2 be handled in a different manner if the parties never married?*

If the parties have established a stable union, the rights and duties between the couple resemble those of the marriage. For this purpose, formal recognition of the family unit will be necessary.

Yone Martori
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ANSWER FROM CHINA

2. *Husband and wife have been married 25 years. Husband's gross monthly income is \$10,000, while wife earns \$5000. They have raised one child together who is now an adult. The husband and wife have accrued during marriage pension funds amounting to \$1,000,000. They have equity in their home of \$500,000. The husband is now 55 years old and the wife is age 50. They plan to sell their home and live in rental housing.*
- a) *How will the pension accounts and the home equity be divided?*

Currently, the retirement age of man in Chinese state-owned enterprises and institutions is 60, and women will be retired at 55. Thus, both parties in this case do not reach the statutory retirement

age in China. As regards the pension accumulated during the marriage by each party, paragraph 3, article 11 in the Supreme People's Court's Judicial Interpretations II of the Marriage Law implemented on April 1, 2004 stipulates that the pension acquired or should be acquired should be the common property of husband and wife. However, article 13 in the Supreme People's Court's Judicial Interpretations III of the Marriage Law implemented on August 13, 2011, stipulates that where one party in the marriage, at the time of divorce, has not retired and fails to meet the requirements for receiving pensions, the people's court shall not uphold the claim of the other party for division of the pension as their common property; where the pension insurance premium is paid with the common property of both parties in the marriage and one party makes a claim, at the time of divorce, for division of the portion in the pension account actually paid by him or her during the marriage with the common property of both parties, the people court shall uphold such claim.

That is to say, in Chinese judicial practice, the expectation interests of the pension accumulated during the marriage are no longer recognized by the court as common property. Even if a party actually receives pension when he or she retires after divorce, the other party has no right to request the division of the pension. Nevertheless, at the time of divorce, one party can claim a half share of common property which is actually paid by the party into one's pension account during marriage. According to relevant policies in China, one's pension insurance premium will be paid by oneself and his or her enterprise or institution etc., respectively half of the premium. What can be divided as common property is only the part one pays as an individual, rather than the other half the enterprise or institution pays.

With respect to the real estate, the incomes acquired from selling the house are the couple's common property, which should be divided by both sides.

b) Will the husband have to pay any spousal support to the wife? if so, in what amount and for what duration?

In this case, the income gap between the husband and wife is huge, and the husband's income is as twice as the wife's. However, according to Article 42 of the *Marriage Law* of China, "If one party has difficulties in living at the time of divorce, the other party should provide appropriate assistance from personal property such as housing, etc..." That is to say, if the wife in this case meets the condition of financial assistance that one party has difficulties in living (there is no income or he or she cannot maintain a basic life), the husband may be asked to provide financial assistance at the time of divorce. The amount of financial assistance for divorce shall be determined by comprehensive consideration in accordance with the basic living standards of local people, the actual needs of the dependent, and the earning ability of the supporter. The duration of the financial assistance for divorce must be determined based on factors such as the length of marriage, the age, the health status, and the working ability of the dependent. If the marriage has just lasted for a short time, and one party is young, healthy and have working ability and just have temporary difficulties in living, the other party can provide a short-term or one-off financial assistance. If the marriage has lasted for many years, one party is old, ill or unable to work, and there is no source of livelihood, the other party should give proper arrangements in housing and living, or provide a long-term economic assistance. Otherwise, if one party has no difficulties in living, there is no obligation for the other party to provide post-divorce financial assistance.

Notably, the post-divorce financial assistance system in China is irrelevant to the living standard during the marriage. China has no regulations to provide spousal alimony caused by the decline of living standard due to the income gap between husband and wife after divorce.

c) *Will the wife qualify for any government support?*

At present, according to the social security system in China, government grants subsidies to the special populations who have difficulties in living caused by low income or no income. As discussed above, if the wife in this case does not meet the condition of subsidies, she has no access to such subsidies granted by government.

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ANSWER FROM UNITED STATES

1.

A. Child support. In the U.S., there are different formulas for computing child support. One simple formula is to calculate the support based on a percentage of the gross income of the parent who has possession of the child less than 50% of the time. So, in this situation, the father would have to pay about \$2,000 per month as child support. It would be customary for a court to add the cost of the health insurance to this amount, and the court would also have the discretion to add some or all of the cost of the day care.

B. In a few states, there is a formula by which a support award is reduced due to increased contact. In most states, it would be within the court's discretion whether to reduce the child support award due to an increase in contact from 25% to 35%.

C. The pension balance and the home equity would be divided approximately equally in most states.

D. In this case, the husband's net after-tax income (after the payment of child support) will be about \$5,000 per month. The wife's after-tax income will be about \$4,500. Based on this small difference in household income, I think it would be unlikely in most states for the mother to be awarded spousal support.

E. The wife will not qualify for government support. The child support obligation is not guaranteed by the government.

2.

A. The pension and the home equity will be divided approximately equally.

B. The wife earns a net income of about \$3500. She also will receive marital assets of about \$750,000, and these assets could accrue additional income. In a few states, the wife will not be granted spousal support because she can meet her minimum reasonable needs without support. In many states, courts will evaluate whether the wife will be able to maintain something approximating the marital standard of living after divorce. If she will not be able to, many courts would award some spousal support. In these states, the support award would continue until the wife remarried or the payor retires.

C. The wife will not qualify for any government benefits, other than a right to Social Security and Medicare, which generally begins at age 65.

3. In a few U.S. states (Alaska and Washington), the result would be approximately the same if the parties were unmarried. In most other states, the result would be very different. The parties would presumptively receive property titled in their respective names. In addition, a claim could be made based on any written or oral contract the parties might have made. Anything resembling spousal support would not be available.

J. Thomas Oldham
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MEMBER NEWS

Nigel Lowe

Together with Victoria Stephens, Nigel Lowe has completed the 4th Statistical Study of applications made in 2015 under the 1980 Hague Abduction Convention. The report, which is posted on The Hague website, comprises a Global Report (Prel Doc 11A), three Regional Reports (Prel Doc 11B) and several National Reports (Prel Doc 11C).

Nigel Lowe was appointed an honorary Queen's Counsel. The ceremony took place in a freezing Westminster Hall on 26 February 2018.

RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Thomas Oldham

Professor Oldham published the following articles:

A Survey of Lawyers' Observations about the Principles Governing the Award of Spousal Support throughout the United States, 51 FAMILY LAW QUARTERLY 1 (2017)

The Financial Provision Bill and the American Experience, FAMILY LAW 82 (January 2018)

Robert Rains

Professor Rains published an article:

Icing on the Wedding Cake: Same-Sex Marriage and Religious Objections—Is There an Accommodation that Will Make Everyone Equally Happy (or Unhappy)? 42 VERMONT LAW REVIEW 191 (2017), <http://lawreview.vermontlaw.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/03-Rains.pdf>

Jens M. Scherpe

Professor Scherpe has published the following books:

JENS M. SCHERPE & ANDY HAYWARD, THE FUTURE OF REGISTERED PARTNERSHIPS – FAMILY RECOGNITION BEYOND MARRIAGE? (Intersentia 2017), <http://intersentia.com/en/the-future-of-registered-partnerships.html>. In this book, leading family law experts from 15 European and non-European countries explore the history and function of registered partnership in their own jurisdictions. Further chapters look at the impact of the European Convention on Human Rights and European Union Law on the regulation of registered partnerships. In the concluding chapters the different approaches are analysed and compared. This book provides the foundation for an informed discussion not only on changes to the implementation of registered partnership schemes, but also more generally for reviewing the law concerning the recognition of adult relationships.

JENS M. SCHERPE, ANATOL DUTTA, & TOBIAS HELMS, *THE LEGAL STATUS OF INTERSEX PERSONS* (Intersentia, forthcoming 2018), <http://intersentia.com/en/the-legal-status-of-intersex-persons.html>. Contains contributions from medical, psychological and theological perspectives as well as national legal perspectives from Germany, Australia, India, the Netherlands, Columbia, Sweden, France and the USA. It explores international human rights aspects of intersex legal recognition and also features chapters on private international law and legal history.

Chen Wei and Li Yan

“A Study of the Establishing Legislation System of the Guardianship System of Chinese Civil Law Code” in 2 *Journal of Southwest University of Political Science and Law* (2017) 76-92

Chen Wei and Dong Siyan

“Reconsideration and Reconstruction of System of Statutory Succession from the Perspective of Chinese Civil Code Compilation” in 7 *Journal of HEBEI Law Science* (2017) 2-19.

Robin Fretwell Wilson

Professor Wilson’s book, *THE CONTESTED PLACE OF RELIGION IN FAMILY LAW* (Robin Fretwell Wilson, ed., Cambridge University Press, 2018) (preorder here: <http://www.cambridge.org/gb/academic/subjects/law/family-law/contested-place-religion-family-law?format=HB#FiIvLrFvyR3kR2kW.97>), will be published next month. She has spoken on the book at events in Israel at Netanya Academic College on March 14, 2018, at Haifa University on March 15, 2018, and at Hebrew University of Jerusalem on March 20, 2018.

Professor Wilson has another forthcoming book on family law issues published by Cambridge University Press and edited with William F. Eskridge of Yale University, *RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, LGBT RIGHTS, AND THE PROSPECTS FOR COMMON GROUND* (William N. Eskridge, Jr. & Robin Fretwell Wilson, eds.) (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming, 2018). With Professor Eskridge and others, she has organized “Tolerance Dialogue” events (<https://www.tolerancemeans.com/>) addressing the issues of same-sex marriage and faith healing and child endangerment at the University of Pittsburgh, the Idaho State Capitol, the University of North Carolina, St. Thomas University and Loras College.

She is now working on a project to increase access to adoption placements. She presented “Making Good on The Promise of a Permanent Home: Religious Adoption Agencies and Child Welfare” at a conference at a Family and Religion Symposium at Brigham Young University on October 13, 2017. She was panelist at an event held at the American Enterprise Institute about reforming the foster care system on February 26, 2018.

Professor Wilson was co-convenor of a conference on the Medicalization of Poverty on November 2-3, 2017 at the University of Illinois where she presented, “Moving Beyond Marriage: Health Care and the Social Safety Net for Families.” She spoke on this topic at the Illinois Council on Family Relations on April 27, 2018, giving a presentation, “The Medicalization of Poverty: Opening Healthcare Access to All Families Builds Resilience and Stops Disadvantaging Non-Traditional Families.” From this work, she has written a forthcoming article, *Moving Beyond*

Marriage: The Economics and Fairness of Lifting All Families From Poverty, JOURNAL OF LAW, MEDICINE & ETHICS (forthcoming).

IN MEMORIAM

Professor Marygold “Margo” Melli

Professor Marygold “Margo” Melli, age 91, died on January 6, 2018. Professor Melli, the Voss-Bascom Professor of Law Emerita at the University of Wisconsin, was an active member of the ISFL for many years. She served both as a member of the Executive Council and as a Vice President.

Margo was also a pioneer. Despite graduating at the top of her law school class, she initially had difficulty, as a woman, finding legal work so took research jobs that led to reform of the State of Wisconsin’s child support system and reorganization of its court system. Thereafter, she became the first woman to hold a tenure-track position at the University of Wisconsin Law School, whose faculty she joined in 1959.

Margo received numerous awards, including the 2013 Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award from the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession, honoring outstanding female lawyers who paved the way for women in the legal profession. Additionally, the Legal Association of Women established the Marygold Melli Achievement Award to recognize individuals who make outstanding contributions to the interest of women in law.

Margo was a passionate, gracious and highly effective family law scholar. She was a generous mentor for many and a role model for us all. She will be sorely missed.

Marsha Garrison
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UPDATED ADDRESSES

NOTE: To receive the current ISFL international survey, you must have updated your address on the webpage by October 15, 2018.