

Bios

for the *Symposium on Contemporary Conflict of Laws Issues in Family Law*, at **BYU Law School, February 1, 2008**

Martha Bailey, LL.B. (U of Toronto), LL.M. (Queen's), D.Phil. (Oxford), is a professor in the Faculty of Law of Queen's University. She teaches Family Law, Conflict of Laws, and Comparative Legal Traditions. Her research focuses on transnational family law, religious diversity and legal pluralism. During 2006-2007, she was a research visitor at NALSAR University of Law in India, Melbourne University in Australia, and Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia.

Patrick J. Borchers is the Vice-President for Academic Affairs and a Professor of law at Creighton University. He was Dean of Creighton Law School from 1999 through 2007. He is the co-author of a widely circulated casebook and treatise on the conflict of laws. He has published extensively on both domestic and foreign conflict-of-laws issues and several times on the application of these principles to same-sex unions.

Joseph W. Dellapenna, a Professor of Law at Villanova University, in Villanova, Pennsylvania, has taught at law schools in the United States and abroad for 39 years. He is the author of *Dispelling the Myths of Abortion History* (Carolina Academic Press 2006). A member of the State Bar of Michigan and of the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States, he presented *amicus* briefs to the Supreme Court on the history of abortion under English and American Law and arguing its relevance to the modern controversy in *Casey v. Planned Parenthood of S.E. Pa.* (1992), *Hodgson v. Minnesota* (1990) *Webster v. Reproductive Health Services* (1989), as well as to state and lower federal courts. Apart from his studies of abortion history, Professor Dellapenna is the author of numerous books and articles on a wide range of topics, mostly dealing with international and comparative law and with natural resources and environmental management. His writings have been cited frequently in courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States. He also has extensive experience in litigating cases involving these questions and in consulting with governments here and abroad on environmental and natural resource questions. He earned a B.B.A. with Distinction from the University of Michigan in 1965, a J.D. *cum laude* from the Detroit College of Law in 1968, an LL.M. in Public International and Comparative Law from the George Washington University in 1969, and an LL.M. (Environmental Law) from Columbia University in 1974.

Olga A. Dyuzheva teaches civil and family law in her *alma mater* Moscow State University Faculty of Law. She cares LL.M. degree from Columbia University School of Law. Regularly lecturing in the leading law faculties abroad. Professor Dyuzheva participated in drafting of the Russian legal acts related to the rights of children such as the Family Code, Act on the Basic Guarantees of the Rights of a Child in Russian Federation, etc. She also initiated the development of intercountry adoption in Russia and lobbied changes to Russian law regarding the adoption through the Russian legislature. She is a member of the Family Law Committee of the Russian Union of Lawyers, Vice-President of the International Society of Family Law, and uthor of

numerous publications (in both Russian and English) mostly on the rights of children and intercountry adoption.

Galina Y. Fedoseeva is a Professor of Law at the Moscow State Legal Academy. Her scholarship focuses on Family Law, International Private Law. She is an author over 50 articles and special professional books, including “Family relations as the object of the International Private Law of Russia” (2006).

Thomas Oldham is the John Freeman Professor of Law at the University of Houston. He is the author of *Divorce, Separation and the Distribution of Property*, as well as the co-author (with Harry Krause, Linda Elrod and Marsha Garrison) of a West textbook on family law, and the co-author (with Margo Melli) of *Child Support: the Next Frontier*.

Jeff Rensberger is a Professor of Law at South Texas College of Law. He has written on same-sex marriages, the Defense of Marriage Act, and Full Faith and Credit, as well as other Conflict of Laws issues. He is a 1980 graduate of Indiana University School of Law. After law school, he clerked on the United States court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit. In addition to his teaching and scholarship, he has been an Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and also now serves as a Vice-President for Strategic Planning and Institutional Research.

Mark Strasser is Trustees Professor of Law at Capital University Law School in Columbus, Ohio. He teaches and writes in family and constitutional law, among other areas. Much of his writing focuses on the recognition of families involving sexual minorities, whether as a matter of state or of federal law.

Lynn D. Wardle is the Bruce C. Hafen Professor of Law at the J. Reuben Clark Law School of Brigham Young University. He also has taught and lectured at other law schools in the United States, Scotland, Japan, Australia, and China. His scholarship focuses on Family Law, Conflict of Laws, Biomedical Ethics and Law, and American Constitutional History. He has served as President (2000-2002) of the International Society of Family Law (an international learned society for family law scholars), and is a member of the American Law Institute. He has testified before Committees of the U.S. Congress and state legislatures about various family policy issues including the federal and state Defense of Marriage Acts, and has published extensively in law reviews about same-sex marriage and lesbian/gay adoption policy issues and interjurisdictional recognition issues. He is a author, co-author, or co-editor of nine scholarly or professional books and over 100 articles or chapters in academic or professional publications.