

# Legal Skills Prof Blog

A Member of the Law Professor Blogs Network

## Blog Editors

### James B. Levy

Associate Professor of Law  
Nova Southeastern Univ. School of Law

- Web Profile
- Email

### Louis J. Sirico, Jr.

Professor of Law  
Director of Legal Writing  
Villanova Univ. School of Law

- Web Profile
- Email

## Contributing Editors

### Todd A. Berger

Managing Attorney  
Federal Prisoner Reentry Project  
Rutgers School of Law-Camden

- Web Profile
- Email

### E. Scott Fruehwald

Legal Writing Teacher and Legal Scholar

- Web Profile
- Email

### Dennis Kennedy

Technology Lawyer, Legal Technology Author and Speaker, Blogger and Podcaster

- Web Profile
- Email

### Tom Mighell

Senior Consultant  
Contoural, Inc.

- Web Profile
- Email

### Christopher G. Wren

Assistant Attorney General  
Wisconsin Department of Justice

« [ABA considers accrediting foreign law schools while attorneys here fear more lost jobs](#) | [Main](#) | [More on non-partnership career choices for lawyers - it's "outsourcing" that keeps jobs in U.S.](#) »

**May 30, 2011**

## Innovative "law without walls" program has U.S. law schools partnering with each other as well as foreign institutions

From [Time Magazine](#):

Partnering with institutions like Harvard Law School, University College London Faculty of Laws and the Peking University School of Transnational Law in Shenzhen, China, LawWithoutWalls uses state-of-the-art technology to share new legal concepts and tools across borders and in tandem with experts from fields like business, who often join the interface along with legal scholars. "We're taking the dynamic interaction that happens in a real law classroom and applying it to an online process across cultures and disciplines," says Michael Bossone, a program co-creator who had to experiment with various Web applications (Zoho works best against the "Great Firewall" of China) to make it all function.

In this class, the lecture hall is cyberspace, a videoconference linking students and professors in places as far-flung as Miami and Shenzhen. And the topic on this particular day isn't torts — it's the controversial boom in legal-process outsourcing (LPO) and other cost-saving devices for law firms.

At the top right of the screen, Bao Shengyuan, 28, a student at Peking Transnational, asks about pitfalls:

Traversing the Ethical Minefield  
Problems, Law, and Professional Responsibility, 3E  
Martyn and Fox



 Wolters Kluwer  
Law & Business

## Archives

### Recent Posts

Is High Unemployment Cyclical or Structural?

Metaphors as tools to persuade; how they work and how to make more effective use of them

New Law School Deans

Chapman Law Gets \$55 Million Gift

WSJ: "The Legal Job Market Is So Bad, It's Good"

How do digital native lawyers conduct legal research?

Salary Increases: Presidents v. Faculty

Florida Coastal School of Law creates Center for Law Practice Technology

In Memoriam: Pauline Maier

- Email

## About Legal Skills Prof Blog

- Email Editors Comments & Content

## News Readers & Feeds

FeedBurner Subscription Service



Enter your Email

Subscribe me!

Preview | Powered by FeedBlitz

*View Recent Posts from Network  
Blog Feeds*

## Search This Blog

Search

## Disclaimer

The material and information contained on this blog is for academic and educational purposes only. Titles and institutional affiliation for individuals who contribute to this blog are for identification purposes only. The opinions expressed are solely those of the blog post author and do not represent the views of any organization that the post author is affiliated with or with the opinions of any other author who publishes on this blog.

No representation is made about the accuracy of the information. By using this blog site you understand that this information is not provided in the course of an attorney-client relationship and is not intended to constitute legal advice. Transmission or receipt of information contained in this web site does not create an attorney-client relationship. Furthermore, transmission or receipt of any correspondence will not create an attorney-client relationship between you and any author of this blog. No assurance is given that any

"Shouldn't there be ethical obligations for nonlawyers who provide assistance outside the firm?" Former American Bar Association President Carolyn Lamm agrees. She raises issues like protection of client information when LPO workers in countries like India, and not a firm's own associates, review case documents, especially via the Internet. "We're witnessing the restructuring of the legal profession," she says, "but we still have to ensure rules like attorney-client privilege."

...

One goal of LawWithoutWalls is to prepare today's law students — who are graduating into one of the bleakest hiring landscapes in memory — for all sorts of different global legal work, like trade litigation: for example, since 2005, annual caseloads at the American Arbitration Association's International Centre for Dispute Resolution have risen more than 50%.

Another big shift that the program aims to illuminate is the "commoditization" of law, embodied by Britain's 2007 Legal Services Act. It permits nonlawyer ownership of law firms and lets them offer nonlegal products like financial services — a reform many legal purists decry as barbarians crashing the bar, though backers insist it improves competition and access to legal services. When this semester's 23 LawWithoutWalls students (who also hail from Fordham Law School and New York School of Law) gathered at a Miami conference in April to present course projects, University College London student Anna Pope found herself clueing U.S. students in to the new "alternative business structures" of British law — and their potential conflicts. If a law firm can be listed on a stock exchange, Pope asked, should it represent a plaintiff suing a bank with which many of the firm's shareholders have accounts?

Either way, "lawyers everywhere have to be more commercial-minded today," says Pope, 31, an attorney training to be a professor. "This course is a

Professor Harold Anthony Lloyd on Langdell

## Topical Archive

About This Blog

Books

Current Affairs

Legal Technology

Practice Management

Web/Tech

The Archives

## Weekly Archives

August 18, 2013 - August 24, 2013

August 11, 2013 - August 17, 2013

August 4, 2013 - August 10, 2013

July 28, 2013 - August 3, 2013

July 21, 2013 - July 27, 2013

July 14, 2013 - July 20, 2013

July 7, 2013 - July 13, 2013

June 30, 2013 - July 6, 2013

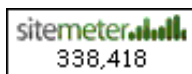
June 23, 2013 - June 29, 2013

June 16, 2013 - June 22, 2013

More...

correspondence, via e-mail or otherwise, between you and any author will be secure or treated as confidential or privileged. Please do not send any author any confidential or privileged information. This blog site should not be used as a substitute for competent legal advice from a licensed attorney. Should the reader of this blog need legal advice or require an answer to a specific question, such advice be sought from a licensed attorney. This blog is not intended to serve as an advertisement or solicitation of legal or other business. In particular, the authors does not intend or desire to solicit through this blog the business of anyone in any state or other jurisdiction where this web site, or the use thereof, may not be in compliance with any law or ethical rule. The material contained on this blog represents the personal views of the individual authors and do not necessarily represent the views of any organization that any authors is affiliated with or with the views of any other author whom might post on this blog.

#### Blog Traffic



Since October 10, 2010

#### Blogware

Powered by TypePad

#### Notices

© Copyright All Rights Reserved  
Contact post author for permissions

wonderful way to break down barriers and question the old way of doing things." And DeStefano Beardslee thinks the U.S. can't resist the new way of doing things for long. "Today," she says, "issues across the pond inevitably become our issues as well." States like North Carolina are considering law-firm reforms similar to Britain's. Meanwhile, "alternative" firms like New York-based Axiom Law, which technically aren't law firms but offer the menu of legal, financial and other services now provided in Europe, are sprouting up in the U.S.

Read more [here](#).

Hat tip to [Stephanie West Allen](#).

(jbl).

May 30, 2011 | [Permalink](#)

## Comments

### Post a comment

#### Verify your Comment

#### Previewing your Comment

Posted by: |

This is only a preview. Your comment has not yet been posted.




Your comment could not be posted. Error type:  
Your comment has been saved. Comments are moderated and will not appear until approved by the author. [Post another comment](#)

The letters and numbers you entered did not match the image. Please try again.

As a final step before posting your comment, enter the letters and numbers you see in the image below. This prevents automated programs from posting comments.

Having trouble reading this image? [View an alternate](#).



Name:

Email Address:

URL:

Remember personal info?

Comments:

Preview

Post