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Aims and Publication Policy:

This journal addresses the legal, business, economic, political and social dimensions of Western Hemispheric integration efforts (e.g., NAFTA, FTAA, MERCOSUR, etc), their implementation, their future evolution and expansion, and their overall impact on doing business in the Americas. The journal will combine practical and policy implications of these integration processes. As such, it will cover not only matters of immediate concern and interest, but also matters respecting reform of legal, business, economic, political and social structures (including human rights, gender, labor, and environmental issues) within the various countries in the Western Hemisphere. Subject matter concerning other regional integration efforts in the world and various other comparative topics in the international trade and investment areas will also be addressed, from time to time.

However, topics of *particular concern* to the journal will include: (1) free trade, direct investment, licensing, finance, taxation, labor, environmental, litigation and dispute resolution, and organizational aspects of NAFTA and other specific integration efforts and their specific implementation. For practical reasons, English is used as the language of communication; (2) subject matter involving economic, legal, political and social integration, and reform effects in Latin and Central America and in the Caribbean Basin; and (3) FTAA implications.

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At the time the manuscript is submitted, written assurance must be given that the article has not been published, submitted, or accepted elsewhere. The author normally will be notified of acceptance, rejection or need for revision within 8-12 weeks.

Manuscripts may range from 6,000 to 10,000 words (approximately 20-30 pages in length). However, longer articles are accepted based upon topic, quality, and space availability. The title of the article should begin with a word useful in indexing and information retrieval. Text and endnotes should be double-spaced. All endnotes should be numbered in sequential order, as cited in the text. Unless for good reason acceptable to the editors, endnotes for legal articles should conform to *The Bluebook, Uniform System of Citation* (18th ed, 2005; online version 2008). For non-legal articles, the citations should be internally consistent within the given article. Authors should submit short biographical data, including his or her affiliation; an abstract summarizing the manuscript (not to exceed 150 words).

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Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law's Law Institute of the Americas

(formerly SMU Centre for NAFTA and Latin American Legal Studies)*

Established in 1952, the LAW INSTITUTE OF THE AMERICAS at Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law was originally designed to promote good will and to improve relations among the people of the Americas through the study of comparative laws, institutions and governments respecting the American Republics, and to train lawyers in handling legal matters pertaining to the nations of the Western Hemisphere. Today, in reviving the institution, the Law Institute of the Americas comprises meaningful academic research, teaching and programs pertaining to the “NAFTA/FTAA processes” and other Western Hemispheric integration efforts; to Latin and Central American law and judicial reform, particularly focusing on Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela; and to a more limited extent, to Canadian legal issues, particularly as they interrelate to the NAFTA/FTAA. The Law Institute of the Americas also is concerned with increasing (regional and hemispheric) legal and economic interconnections between the “NAFTA/FTAA processes” and European and Asia-Pacific integration activities.

The officers of the Institute are as follows: the **Honorable Roberto MacLean**, President; **Professor Joseph J. Norton**, Executive Director; and **Professor George Martinez**, Associate Executive Director. The Institute is also supported by distinguished group of Professorial Fellows, Senior Research Scholars, Professional Fellows, and Student Research Fellows.

As the Institute focuses primarily on issues pertaining to the North American Free Trade Agreement and the pending Free Trade Area of the Americas, and the broader economic, political, legal, and social integration processes underway in the Western Hemisphere, Law and Business Review of the Americas is one of the International Law Review Association of SMU. Other parties of the journal are the Cox School of Business, the SMU Departments of Economics and Political Science, the London Forum, and the American Bar Association Section of International Law and Practice.

* From 1952 through the early 1970's, the name was the Law Institute of the Americas; in 1993, it was reactivated as the Centre for NAFTA and Latin American Legal Studies; and in 1998, it returned to its original name. For further detailed historical information on the Law Institute of the Americas, please refer to the Law Institute of the Americas' website at <http://www.law.smu.edu/lia>.

Articles

