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Second Conference on "The Economic and Political Challenges of Market Reform in Latin America," Southern Methodist University Tower Center, Dallas, Texas, 4 October 1997

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Aims and Publication Policy:

This journal addresses the legal, business, economic, political and social policy dimensions of NAFTA, its implementation, its future evolvement and expansion and its overall impact on doing business in the Americas. The journal will combine practical and policy implications of NAFTA. 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 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: (i) free trade, direct investment, licensing, finance, taxation, litigation and dispute resolution and organizational aspects of NAFTA and its specific implementation. For practical reasons, English is used as the language of communication; and (ii) subject matter involving economic, legal, political, and social integration and reform effects in Latin and Central American and in the Caribbean Basin.

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The editors will consider for publication manuscripts by contributors from any country. Articles will be subjected to a professional review procedure. The authors should ensure that the significance of a contribution will be apparent to readers outside the specific expertise. Special terms and abbreviations should be clearly defined in the text or notes.

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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.

Authors are requested to submit two copies of their manuscript, typed in double space, together with a summary of the contents. Manuscripts may range from 6,000 from 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. Short titles are used as running heads. All notes should be numbered in sequential order, as cited in the text, and should be typed in double-spaced on a separate page. Unless for good reason acceptable to the editors, endnotes for legal articles should conform to a uniform system of citation (The Harvard Bluebook, 16th ed.). For nonlegal articles, the citations should be internally consistent within the given article. The author should submit short biographical data including his or her affiliation.
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Southern Methodist University 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 School of Law was originally designed to promote good will and to improve relations among the peoples 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 this institution, the Law Institute of the Americas comprises meaningful academic research, teaching and programs pertaining to the “NAFTA Process” and 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. The Law Institute of the Americas also is concerned with increasing (regional and hemispheric) legal and economic interconnections between the “NAFTA Process” 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; Professor George A. Martinez, Associate Executive Director; Professor Rosa Lara (of the UNAM Law Research Institute), Acting Assistant Director; Professor C. Paul Rogers, III, Acting Chair; the Honorable Raul Granillo O’Campo (Minister of Justice of Argentina), Honorary Chair; the Honorable John S. McKennery (Executive Director of the NAFTA Labor Commission), Honorary Chair; and Professor Julio C. Cueto-Rua of Argentina, Honorary President of the Institute. The Institute also is supported by a distinguished group of Professorial Fellows, Senior Research Scholars, Professional Fellows, and Student Research Fellows. Corporate sponsorship of the Institute is provided by H.D. Vest Financial Services.

As the Institute focuses on issues pertaining to the North American Free Trade Agreement and the broader economic, political, legal and social integration process underway in the Western Hemisphere, the NAFTA: Law and Business Review of the Americas is one of its publications, and is produced jointly by the Law Institute of the Americas and the International Law Review Association of SMU. Other parties involved in the production of the journal are the SMU School of Business, the SMU Departments of Economics and Political Science, the University of London, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, the American Bar Association Section of International Law and Practice and Kluwer Law International.

* 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 information on the Law Institute of the Americas, please refer to the Winter 1998 issue of the NAFTA Review, pages 5 through 36; this information is substantially current except for the new name change referred to above.