Date: August 5, 2008

To: Paul Camenisch, Director of Program Review

From: David E. Guinn, Executive Director


The following highlights the efforts undertaken during the 2002-2003 fiscal year to address the actions agreed upon within the Memorandum of Agreement – June 2002 for the International Human Rights Law Institute (IHRLI). Attached you will find a narrative update for matters other than action items.

1. Seek Additional Funding

Pursuant to its new strategic plan, the Institute has undertaken a number of initiatives to increase its funding support.

   a. Advisory Board Support – the Institute has encouraged advisory board member to make donations to the Institute. It has received some support.

   b. College of Law Fundraising – the Institute is meeting with Patricia Richardson to discuss the needs of the Institute and its part in College of Law fundraising programs.

   c. Membership and Web solicitations – the Institute is developing a new web page. One feature of the web page will encourage donations and will provide “members” benefits to donors at certain levels.

   d. Publications – the Institute operates a significant publishing program, issuing Institute reports through its own imprint and through commercial publishers. The Institute will market these publications on its web page.

   e. Grants – the Institute continues its efforts to obtain grants. IHRLI continues to have some success with private foundations, obtaining over $700,000 in private grants during the course of the past year to underwrite project work.

   f. Government Contracts – IHRLI is also seeking to reestablish its working relationship with the federal government. In particular, the Institute has met with OSPR to encourage OSPR to support IHRLI in its efforts to obtain government grants by informing IHRLI when governmental RFPs (Request for Proposals) are issued.
2. Continue to Assure Safety

The Executive Director discussed safety and insurance issues with the General Counsel’s office and with the director of risk management at DePaul. As a result, students are advised to register for an ISIC card prior to any trip. IHRLI also monitors the State Department advisory list to assure the safety of students and staff.

3. Expanded Programming

The Institute has undertaken a number of initiatives to enhance programming.

a. LLM – IHRLI developed a proposal for a new LLM that has been submitted to the International Law Committee of the Faculty of Law for development and implementation.

b. Public Event Programming – IHRLI has expanded its list of invitees for public events to include others within the University. It has also opened up the Sullivan Roundtables (lunch time meetings with leaders in the human rights field formerly dedicated solely to the Sullivan Fellows) to include broader faculty participation within the College of Law and within other programs offered by the University.

c. Student/Volunteer Programs – IHRLI has initiated a new volunteer and summer internship program for students and other volunteers within and without of the College of Law. For example, this summer we will have students from: John Marshall Law School, Suffolk University School of Law, the University of Chicago Law School, University of Wisconsin School of Law, and Brown University, as well as a number of DePaul College of Law students working on programs over the summer. This summer we will have approximately 10 students working over the summer. This is in addition to its traditional program for International Fellows (generally 4 to 6 fellows per year). This increasing involvement and service of students contributes to the problems of limited space for the Institute (see below).

d. Collaboration with other Centers and Clinics – over the course of the year, the Executive Director met with leaders of the Center for Church/State Studies, the Immigration/Asylum Law Clinic and the Health Law program to discuss collaborative opportunities. As a result of these initiatives, IHRLI and the Health Law program anticipate jointly sponsoring a conference on issues of international women’s health for the Spring of 2004.

4. Short Term Space Issues

Office space continues to be a problem for the Institute, particularly given its increasing programming activities and the ever-increasing involvement of international fellows, summer interns and student volunteers. We work closely with the Dean in attempting to meet this need. We have reorganized the space available to us to increase its use and utility – though we remain short of adequate space.