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Re: ICCC - Russia Competition

Dear Dr. and Dean Tarhanov:

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to write to you about the importance of the International Client Consultation Competition ("ICCC") and the participation of Kazan State University ("KSU") in that program.

As an introduction, let me give you some information about myself. While I am a practicing lawyer in Los Angeles, I have also taught as a Visiting Professor at a number of law schools under the sponsorship for the Center for International Legal Studies. I spent two months at Kazan State University in the Fall 2006, where I taught courses in International Commercial Arbitration and in Client Counseling. I have also taught at Samara State University for Economics, where I also lectured on International Commercial Arbitration and Client Counseling and assisted them in building a client counseling program. Most recently, just last month, I lectured at the National University Odessa Academy of Law, where once again, I lectured on both International Commercial Arbitration and Client Counseling.

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At Kazan State University, I worked closely with Professor Ilmur Salihkov to instruct a student team from the University to compete in the National Russian Competition and also assisted him in organizing the National Russian Competition. The ICCC also financed a visit by a lawyer from London to Kazan in early 2007 to assist in the training of students for the competition. When the first Russian National Competition was held at Kazan State University in February 2007, I made a special trip from Los Angeles to Kazan to serve as a judge of the competition and to assist Professor Salihkov and the students overall. I also traveled to Sydney, Australia, in 2007, where the international competition was held that year and at which Kazan State University sent a team. I was a judge at that competition, and I worked with Professor Salihkov in coaching the KSU team, and they performed admirably.

After my two visits to Kazan, I have continued to stay in touch with Professor Salihkov and several students. I was instrumental in helping one KSU law student obtain a full scholarship for a masters in law degree in the United States and helping another student obtain an internship at a museum in Los Angeles. I regularly communicate with other former KSU law students.

In addition, for several years, I made financial contributions to the ICCC specially directed to assist Kazan State University with the expenses of holding the National Competition and sending the winning team to the International Competition. ICCC also helped finance the Russian National Competition for several years. The ICCC program is to financially assist countries participating for their first few years, and, after that, countries are expected to raise their own funds.

Having established my own personal involvement in the participation of Kazan State University and Russia in the ICCC, let me give you some of the benefits that come from participation.

First, I want to emphasize that in the United States and in Europe (and, through the effort of ICCC, in the larger international community), there has been growing attention on the need to train students to increase their client interviewing and counseling skills. The emphasis is on a client-centered approach to practicing law. No matter what type of position your students obtain as lawyers (whether in private practice, working for a company, or working for the government), they will have a client. It is very important for them to learn the skills necessary to effectively interview clients, counsel them on their problems, work with them to develop a list of options and a plan for solving their legal problems. This is an area of legal education that is often lacking, and the international community has recognized in recent years the importance of client interviewing and consultation skills in a student's overall legal education. Thus, the first benefit is that the ICCC fills a critical gap in the educational and professional skills of your students.

Second, the ICCC is a well-recognized international legal competition. Each year, it brings together the winning law school teams from more than 20-25 countries to compete in the final competition. ICCC gives students and national representatives an opportunity to

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meet other professionals from countries in the United States, Europe, Asia and Africa. Participants are able to communicate with representatives of the other countries important information about the position of legal education in their countries and to showcase some of their finest students to the international community. Thus, it gives KSU and Russia an important international forum and connection.

Third, the ICCC has given Russia the opportunity to demonstrate to the international community the quality of the legal education programs offered to their law students and the skills of those students. In two of the competitions, Russia finished second overall, a remarkable performance for a country that had been a recent entrant into the competition.

Fourth, the role that Kazan State University and Professor Salikhov have played has been exceptional. It has increased the national and international profile of Kazan State University Faculty of Law, making it an international leader in this area. Professor Salikhov has now had years of experience in training and coaching students and has been an excellent national representative of ICCC - Russia. Continued participation by Kazan State University Faculty of Law would add to the international profile and prestige of the University.

I strongly encourage Kazan State University Faculty of Law, with your support, to continue to host the ICCC - Russia competition for 2013 and to assist in sending a Russian team to the International Final Event. It is very important for Russia and the students to continue their participation in ICCC, and there is no university in Russia better positioned to play a leadership role than Kazan State University Faculty of Law. Continued participation will ensure that the educational and professional development of your law students and the laws students in Russia is consistent with the norms and expectations within the international community.

The time I spent at Kazan State University as a Visiting Professor and my memories of that experience remain dear to me. I have continued my relationship with Professor Salikhov and a number of your students, and those relationships have enriched me personally and professionally. I have great respect and admiration for Kazan State University in general and the Faculty of Law in particular. I send my best personal regards.

Sincerely,



Cary B. Lerman

CBL/mg

cc: Professor Ilmur Salikhov

Forrest Mosten, Chairman of the ICCC