The New European Choice-of-Law Revolution
Lessons for the United States?

Saturday
9 February 2008
8:30 – 18:30

Room 4047
Duke University School of Law

In a globalizing world of inter-dependent legal systems, determining which laws apply to international private transactions is of crucial importance. Yet Choice of Law, the field that deals with these determinations, is in a crisis in the United States. By contrast, it is thriving in Europe.

After the American choice-of-law revolution in the sixties and seventies, are we now observing a European choice-of-law revolution? Can European developments incite reforms and rekindle excitement in the U.S., as earlier American developments incited reforms in Europe? Or, in the alternative, could the European developments be seen as a model of how things should not be done?

Leading experts from Europe and the United States will come to Duke for a one-day conference to discuss these and other questions. Topics include specific areas of law like contract, tort, family, and corporate, as well as broader theoretical issues like choice-of-law method, differences between internal and external conflicts, and the role of choice of law as a regulatory instrument in an integrated market.

Panelists

Larry Catá BACKER Dickinson School of Law & Tulane University Law School
Jürgen BASEDOW Max Planck Institute for Comparative & International Private Law, Hamburg
Katharina BOELE-WOELKI Universiteit Utrecht
Patrick BORCHERS Creighton University School of Law
Jens DAMMANN University of Texas School of Law
Ooniq DOMBALAGIAN Tulane University Law School
Richard FENTIMAN University of Cambridge Faculty of Law
Jan von HEIN Universitàt Trier
Ralf MICHAELS Duke University School of Law
Horatia MUIR WATT Université Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne
Eriq O’HARA Vanderbilt University School of Law
Martin PERTEGAS Universiteit Antwerpen
Mathias W. REIMANN University of Michigan Law School
William A. REPPY, Jr. Duke University School of Law
Larry RIBEKIN University of Illinois College of Law
William M. RICHMAN The University of Toledo College of Law
Linda SILBERMAN New York University School of Law
Dennis SOLOMON Universität Tübingen
Symeon SYMEONIDES Willamette College of Law