

FOREWORD

Part of what makes the study of international law so interesting is its evolution over time to encompass new subjects, incorporate new actors, and address new problems. The challenges posed by our globalizing world seem to have accelerated this process, and each year the ASIL Annual Meeting provides an invaluable opportunity to join with the leading experts in the field to take stock of what the past year has wrought and what lies ahead. The 2010 Annual Meeting focused explicitly on the dynamic nature of international law, with a theme of “International Law in a Time of Change.” Annual Meeting Co-Chairs Russ LaMotte, Hari Osofsky, and Allen Weiner led a terrific program committee to organize dozens of sessions highlighting the many dimensions of change in our field today.

Meeting highlights included Professor Antony Anghie’s provocative Grotius Lecture about whether international law should “lead or follow in changing times”; Canadian Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin’s keynote on the similarities and differences between how courts view international and foreign law in the United States and Canada; Hudson Medal Winner Edith Brown Weiss’s reflections on her work as Chair of the World Bank Inspection Panel, entitled “On Being Accountable in a Kaleidoscopic World;” and State Department Legal Adviser Harold Koh’s explanation of the change in U.S. policy brought on by a new administration. The meeting was capped by reflections on change in our field from the eight Hudson Medal winners in attendance at the Annual Dinner. These plenary events were complemented by panel discussions, debates, and roundtables on subjects ranging from climate change to nuclear non-proliferation, international arbitration to human rights. This volume serves as the official record of those three stimulating days.

For the richness of the 2010 meeting and this volume, we are indebted to our Meeting Co-Chairs and Program Committee. They assembled a stellar program and worked hard in the months since to gather and edit the contents of this volume. We also owe thanks to Preeti Deshmukh and Cara Smith who managed the editorial process for the Proceedings and to Veronica Onorevole and Wendy Roller, who managed many of the logistical aspects of the meeting program.

As this volume goes to print in mid-2011, I am struck by the change that has occurred in even the relatively short time since the 2010 meeting, and I am grateful for this important record of the issues, debates, and perspectives that preoccupied us in 2010. I hope that its publication will mark that place where we found ourselves a year ago and inform the evolving international law discussion for years to come.

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