Private Law Workshop

Fall 2015

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We will meet on Wednesdays from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. The workshop will host paper presentations by seven invited speakers. For classes held during ‘off’ weeks that precede presentations, we will read background materials relevant to future presentations. Papers and materials will be posted about a week prior to each session.

For each session at which an invited speaker presents a paper, you are obligated to submit by e-mail, to both of us, at least two written questions about the paper. Questions are due by noon on the Tuesday before the presentation.

You are also required to write a paper for the seminar on any topic relevant to private law. There is no required paper length, but 25 pages might serve as a target. You must submit by e-mail to both of us a tentative description of your topic by 5 pm on Friday, October 9. We will meet with you individually during the week of October 12 to discuss your proposed topic. Papers are due on 5 pm of the last day of the spring semester exam period.


September 16: Ben Zipursky, Civil Recourse, Pragmatism, and the Law of Torts (draft chapters)


October 7: Rebecca Stone, “Economic Analysis of Contract Law from the Internal Point of View”

October 14: Avihay Dorfman, “Egalitarian Due Care”


October 28: Ben McFarlane & Simon Douglas, “Property and Analogy”


November 11: James Penner, “We All Make Mistakes: A Duty of Virtue Theory of Liability for Restitution of Mistaken Payments”

November 18: Paul Miller, “Authority: Personal and Fiduciary”

December 2: Andrew Gold, “Accommodating Loyalty”