



# Toronto in 2000

The theme *Toronto in 2000* announced Thomas Cooley's newest foreign studies program which was held May 18 - June 30, 2000. The combination of exciting Canadian law courses and a world class city provided the basis for a highly successful program in Toronto.

The *Toronto in 2000* program involved two Cooley faculty members experienced in foreign studies programs: Professor William Weiner and Professor Keith J. Hey. Both have taught in and/or directed similar programs in the past. Professor Weiner oversees all of Cooley's foreign studies programs; he

also taught the Comparative Constitutional Law course in Toronto. Professor Hey was the on-site director, handling the day-to-day operations of the program. Paul D. Paton, a Canadian barrister and solicitor, served as the co-director. In addition to the courses in Comparative Constitutional Law offered by Professor Weiner and Canadian Constitutional Law taught by Mr. Paton, the program offered courses in Canadian Criminal Law, Canadian Civil Procedure, and Canadian Environmental Law. All of the teachers in the program hold either masters or doctoral degrees and two are faculty members at Osgoode Hall Law School in Toronto.

Nineteen students participated in the program, seven from Cooley and twelve from other U.S. law schools. "We were extremely pleased at the number of students for the first year of the program. It usually takes a few years for the numbers to reach that level" reports Professor Hey. "Also, attracting students from all over the U.S. means we are getting nationwide attention. Obviously we have found a special niche in the ever-expanding number of foreign studies programs," he added. The non-Cooley students represented eleven U.S. law schools from every region of the country, including Hawaii, Miami, Western State, Seton Hall, John Marshall, and Tulsa. Many Canadian students attend U.S. law schools and the Toronto program will be of particular interest to them since



PROFESSOR KEITH HEY AND STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY PARTICIPATING IN THE FOREIGN STUDIES PROGRAM IN TORONTO, CANADA.



FRONT ROW, FROM LEFT: PROF. LAURA NEMCHIN, MELISSA MITCHELL (COOLEY), AND PAUL MICHALEK (COOLEY). BACK ROW: PROF. KEITH J. HEY, PROF. JAMIE FLAGAL, JOHN REVA (COOLEY), AND JOSEPH MACERI (COOLEY).

the courses focus on Canadian and International Law. Also, the proximity of Toronto to Cooley and many other U.S. law schools means less travel expenses for the students. In addition, there is a very good currency exchange rate with Canadian dollars and no language problems.

The *Toronto in 2000* program ran for six weeks, starting on May 18 and ending June 30, 2000. This timing allowed students to study in Toronto and still take a separate foreign studies program operated by San Diego. Several of the Cooley students in Toronto took advantage of this opportunity and moved on to other foreign studies programs in England and Ireland. The Cooley students in the *Toronto in 2000* program were: Sue Chen, David Hart, Joseph Maceri, Paul Michalek, Melissa Mitchell, John Reva, and Leo Simmons. Professor Hey suggests that anyone interested in the Toronto Program should talk with one of these students.

The program site in Toronto was the University of Saint Michael's at the University of Toronto. Classes were held, and the students were housed, at this location. Saint Michael's is conveniently located on the eastern edge of the University of Toronto's main campus, just a short walk from the shopping and theatre districts on Bloor and Yonge

Streets in the heart of uptown Toronto.

Part of the attraction of foreign studies programs is the opportunity to socialize with students from other law schools and also to visit local sites of interest. The students in Toronto attended a lively session of Parliament as the members were debating a recent drinking water pollution situation that resulted in the illness of more than fifty

people as well as several deaths.

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The criminal law courts in Toronto were also visited on another field trip.

Planned social functions included an opening day outdoor barbecue and an end-of-term dinner on campus. Both were highly successful events. Students and faculty also attended a Toronto Blue Jays-Detroit Tigers baseball game (the Tigers won big time!!) and traveled to Stratford to see the play *Hamlet*. The faculty and students really interacted well, both in the classroom and at social functions. Going out to lunch or dinner in groups of 6-10 students plus a faculty member or two was a common event.

Two special features added further interest to the Toronto Program. On June 12 and 13 the program was

inspected by Dean Steve Smith of California Western Law School as part of the program's accreditation by the American Bar Association. "The Toronto program was provisionally approved by the ABA in November of 1999 but all new programs must be inspected on site before gaining full approval" explains Professor Hey. Dean Smith met with faculty, students, and administrators and sat in on several classes. His exit comments to Professors Hey and Weiner were encouraging and positive.

The second special event was the Cooley Krinock Lecture which was held in Osgoode Hall on June 16<sup>th</sup>. The lecture on the topic of "Multi-Disciplinary Practice" was given by Mr. Paul Paton, who is an expert on that subject. The lecture and following reception were held in the Barrister's Lounge, one of the famous historical rooms in Osgoode Hall. Dean Don LeDuc, Professor Peter Jason, and several guests from Lansing attended the event. The Toronto faculty, students, and local alumni were also in attendance.

"The Toronto foreign studies program is off to a great start" notes Professor Hey. "We have generated a lot of interest in the program across the country and I



FROM LEFT: FRANCES JAGTOO, PROF. PAUL D. PATON, PROF. PETER JASON, AND SHARON RUSHCAMP-HEY.

would expect that the program for next year will be even more successful." ■