PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2011

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  STUDENTS’ FORUM
College of The Bahamas/UWI LLB & EDLS Students
Speakers
  Ms. Tracy Robinson (Barbados)
  Dr. Leighton Jackson (Jamaica)
  The Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Thorpe (U.K.)

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  JUDICIAL OFFICERS’ FORUM
Inter-active Workshop
Moderator: Mme. Justice Nottage (Ret.) (The Bahamas)
Conductor: The Hon. Mme. Judge Nancy Flatters (Canada)
*Increasing Access to Justice: Judicial Dispute Resolution (JDR) Settlement Conferencing: Evolving and Changing Roles*

12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.  JOINT LUNCH
Participants in Students’ Forum and Judicial Officers’ Forum

6:30 p.m.  OPENING CEREMONY, DISTINGUISHED LECTURE & COCKTAIL RECEPTION
Procession of Flags, Children’s Choir, Police Band
Welcome
  Chairperson: Mrs. Tonya Bastian Galanis, Principal, EDLS
Remarks
  Professor Lynn Wardle (U.S.A.)
Remarks
  Mrs. Hazel Thompson-Ahye, Conference Convenor

Address to Open Conference
  Senator The Hon. John Delaney, Q.C. Attorney General & Minister of Legal Affairs

Distinguished Lecture
  The Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Thorpe (U.K.)
  *The Development of International Family Law & Practice*

Vote of Thanks: Mme. Justice Nottage (Ret.)
FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2011

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND REGISTRATION

8:30 – 10:30 a.m. Opening Plenary Session

Session 1
Moderator: Mme. Justice Thompson (Ret.)
(The Bahamas)
Greetings: Mrs. Ruth Bowe-Darville, President, The Bahamas Bar Association
*Address: The Hon. Sir Michael Barnett, Chief Justice of The Bahamas
Keynote Address: Professor John Eekelaar (U.K.)
*Family Justice: “Not of the Highest Importance”

Panel Discussion: Marriage
Presenters:
   Dr. William Doherty (U.S.A.)
   Preventing Unnecessary Divorce Through Legal Reform
   Professor Margaret Brinig (U.S.A.)
   Marriage and Other Mediating Institutions for the Benefit of Children
   Professor Roger Kay (U.K.)
   Radmacher: The Meaning of Life, The Universe and Everything

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. COFFEE BREAK

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Legal Consequences of Family Disintegration – Divorce, Child Custody and Property Division

Session 1A
Moderator: The Hon. Mme. Justice Bain (The Bahamas)
Presenters:
   Dr. Joseph Walker (The Bahamas)
   No Fault Divorce – Style Without Substance
   Professor Eva Ryrstedt (Sweden)
   Can We Make Do With Collaboration?
   Ms. Tracy Robinson (Barbados)
   Division of Relationship Property in the Caribbean: Negotiating “Equity” and “Commonsense Knowledge” of Caribbean Families
   The Hon. Mr. Justice Robin Mohammed (Trinidad and Tobago)
   The Law in Relation to Property Adjustment for Cohabitants
10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
Session 1B  
Legal Consequences – Disintegration of Families – Property Division on Divorce and Death  
Moderator: The Hon. Mme. Justice Remy (Antigua and Barbuda)  
Presenters:  
Professor McKen Carrington/Mr. Christopher Ogolla (U.S.A.)  
*Fame, Family Feuds, Intestate Succession and Vicissitudes of Transnational Probate*  
Professor Dr. Olga Cvejic Jančić (Serbia)  
*Paternity and Inheritance Laws*  
Mr. A. Dion Hanna Jr. (The Bahamas)  
*Land and Freedom: Family, Generation and Distributive Justice in a Bahamian Context*  

12:15 – 1:30 p.m.  
Session 2A  
Social Consequences of Family Disintegration – Domestic Violence  
Moderator: The Hon. Mme. Justice Peterson (Trinidad and Tobago)  
Presenters:  
The Hon. Mme. Judge Nancy Flatters (Canada)  
*The Mountain and Beyond – Working Together on Domestic Violence – A Collaborative Approach*  
Ms. Donna Boucaud (Trinidad and Tobago)  
*Family Violence Intervention Programmes of the Family Court of Trinidad and Tobago*  
Dr. Marija Draškić (Serbia)  
*Family Law Protection from Domestic Violence: Serbian Response to the Legal Consequences of the Disintegration of Families*  
Mrs. Lynette Seebaran suite/Ms. Sydelle Johnson (Trinidad and Tobago)  
*Zero Tolerance Towards Domestic Violence: Strengthening Accountability and Changing Culture To End Violence Against Women*  

12:15 – 1:30 p.m.  
Session 2B  
Issues of Children’s Rights and Juvenile Delinquency  
Moderator: Her Worship Mrs. Carolyn Voght-Evans (The Bahamas)  
Presenters:  
Ms. Janice George (Trinidad and Tobago)  
*The Possibility of Mediation as Problem Solver to Male Juvenile Delinquency in Trinidad and Tobago*  

Professor Jane Adolphe (U.S.A.)
Marriage and the Family, Rights of Parents and Children in International Law

Mr. Kevaugh Mattis (Trinidad and Tobago)

The Nature of Legal Reform in Light of the Disintegration of the Family Structure and the Resultant Pathologies of Youth Crime and Delinquency in Trinidad and Tobago

1:30- 2:45 p.m.   LUNCH
Chairperson: Hazel Thompson-Ahye, EDLS
Speaker: The Hon. Justice Rodney K. Burr, A.M. (Australia)

The Importance of The Family Court in the Delivery of Justice: The Australian Experience

2:45- 4:15p.m.   Session 3A
Social Consequences of Family Disintegration – Children in the Middle
Moderator: Mrs. Cheryl Bazard (The Bahamas)
Presenters:

Ms. Anna Maria Mora (Trinidad and Tobago)

Community as Family: A Redefinition

Ms. Joy Dillon (Trinidad and Tobago)

It Takes a Village to Raise a Child: An Insight into the Fluidity of Contemporary Caribbean Family Life and its Impact on Protecting the Rights of the Child

Dr. Martha Hayes Sampson (U. K.)

In Re A Child: Relocation

Professor Dr. Gordana Kovaček Stanić (Serbia)

International Child Abduction

2:45 – 4:15 p.m.   Session 3B
Saving Families; Children, Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART), Adoption
Moderator: The Hon. Mme. Justice George (Guyana)
Presenters:

Professor Lynn D.Wardle (U.S.A.)

Children’s Rights to their Parents: A Better World for the Next Generation?

Professor Mark Strasser (U.S.A.)

Child Welfare and the Promotion of Marriage

Dr. Douglas AAbbott (U.S.A.)

Children in Diverse Family Forms: Is there an Optimal Environment for Child Development?

4:15 – 4:30 p.m.   COFFEE BREAK
4:30 - 6:00 p.m.  
**Session 4A**  
**Reconstitution of Families – Paternity and Adoption Issues**  
**Moderator:** Professor Sanford Katz (U.S.A.)  
**Presenters:**  
Dr. Leighton Jackson (Jamaica)  
*Science Over Sense and Matter Over Mind? Destabilizing Caribbean Family Relationships with DNA*  
Professor Shani Mahiri King (U.S.A.)  
*Haitian Monohumanism: Haiti in the Aftermath of the 2010 Earthquake: A Case Study of Inter-Country Adoption Practices*  
Professor David R. Papke (U.S.A.)  
*Race and Contemporary Adoption Law in the United States*  
Professor Cynthia Hawkins DeBose (U.S.A.)  
*US Trans-Racial and African American Adoption: Findings from the 2007 DHHS National Survey of Adoptive Parents (NSAP)*

4:30 – 6:00 p.m.  
**Session 4B**  
**Reconstitution of Families – Children, ART & Adoption**  
**Moderator:** Dr. Evaneth McPhee (The Bahamas)  
**Presenters:**  
Professor Robert Destro (U.S.A.)  
*The Rights of Children and the Ethical Obligations of Professionals*  
Professor Walter R. Schumm (U.S.A.)  
*Two Lesbian Parents are Better than a Mom and Dad? Really? Logical and Methodical Flaws in Recent “No Harm” Studies Affirming the Superiority of Lesbian Parenthood*  
Professor George W. Dent (U.S.A.)  
*“No Difference” Claims and the Deprivation of Parental Bonds*  
Ms. Tatiana Tolstoy Kongstad (Sweden)  
*Contemporary Parenthood*

8:00 p.m.  
**CONFERENCE BANQUET**  
**Speaker:** Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Thorpe (U.K.)  
*London’s Influence on Big Money Cases on Other Common Law Jurisdiction*
SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2011

7:30 – 9:00 a.m. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Plenary Session
Session 5 Family Issues
Moderator: The Hon. Mr. Justice William Chandler (Barbados)
Presenters:
  Mme. Justice Nottage (Ret.) (The Bahamas)
    Marriage: Family Law’s Fractured Lens
  Dr. Maria Gomes (Trinidad and Tobago and U.S.A.)
    Living On The Edge: Families Fractured by the 1996 U.S. Immigration Reform Act
  Hon. Anthony D. J. Gafoor (Trinidad and Tobago)
    The Evolving Treatment of the Family for Tax and Other Related Economic and Financial Purposes in the Commonwealth Caribbean with Reference to Trinidad and Tobago
  Dr. Diane Douglas (Trinidad and Tobago)
    Co-Parenting Intervention for Separated and Divorced Families of the Family Court of Trinidad and Tobago
  Ms. Gina Morley (The Bahamas)
    The Legal Disabilities of Bahamian Women and the Concomitant Effect on Illegitimate Children

11:00 – 11:15 a.m. COFFEE BREAK

11:15 a.m. – 12:00 noon EVALUATION AND CLOSING
Moderator: Mrs. Hazel Thompson-Ahye, EDLS
Speaker: Hon. Mrs. Loretta Butler-Turner, Minister of Social Development (The Bahamas)

Session 6
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. LUNCH

1:30 p.m. DEPARTURES/TOURS

6:30 p.m. COCKTAIL RECEPTION: Royal Bahamas Defence Force Headquarters, Coral Harbour.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2011

10:00 a.m. Day Tour to Paradise Island