A World-Class View of Dispute Resolution

TRANSLATING THEORY INTO PRACTICE
Message from the Dean

IN 1986 PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW saw the future of the “dispute resolution movement” and accepted the challenge to provide international leadership to an emerging field. Almost 30 years later, the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution is widely regarded for its innovative programs that have served more than 40,000 students and practitioners around the world.

The ability to resolve disputes in a thoughtful, respectful, and insightful manner is essential to shaping lawyers who will positively and dramatically affect national and international institutions that seek to deliver justice and advance the rule of law. Pepperdine University School of Law is privileged indeed to be the home of the prestigious Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution where thousands of students and practitioners from around the world have engaged in rigorous training and dialogue, preparing them to assist in resolving some of society’s most challenging conflicts. The work of the Straus Institute is one of the manifestations of Pepperdine University’s commitment to being teachers, scholars, and learners who base our work on the centrality of Christian values to our mission. I am pleased to be a part of this noble endeavor.

DEANELL REECE TACHA
Duane and Kelly Roberts Dean and Professor of Law

Message from the Directors

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST in the graduate programs in dispute resolution at Pepperdine University School of Law. The academic programs in dispute resolution at Pepperdine are a unique educational experience in several ways.

While building on a strong theoretical base, which includes an understanding of the literature in the dispute resolution field, the goal of the institute’s academic program is to translate theory into real-world practice. With more than 40 separate courses in dispute resolution, we offer one of the most comprehensive dispute resolution curriculums in the nation. This uniquely broad and deep course spectrum allows us to offer not only a strong educational foundation, but also a wide range of advanced courses providing students with many skills that are useful in professional practice.

Pepperdine has the most extensive alternative dispute resolution faculty in the world. While most schools have only one or two faculty members teaching dispute resolution, each year Pepperdine has more than 35 faculty members conducting courses. Coming from around the world, our teachers include a wide variety of leading scholars as well as experienced professionals. And Pepperdine’s full-time faculty now includes an unprecedented assemblage of experts on pertinent topics ranging from negotiation and mediation to international commercial arbitration.

Since no letter or brochure can adequately describe the dynamics of outstanding professional education, I invite you to ask institute staff for assistance in discussing the program with students and alumni over the phone or by e-mail. Better yet, please visit the campus, observe a class, and discuss your interest in the field with institute staff. We want to do everything possible to acquaint you with the exciting educational programs at Pepperdine and let you see why law school faculty across the country have consistently ranked the Pepperdine dispute resolution program as one of the best in the country. We welcome you to consider becoming a part of the Straus community.

THOMAS STIPANOWICH
William H. Webster Chair in Dispute Resolution, Academic Director, and Professor of Law

FROM ITS BEGINNING, the Straus Institute has been committed to five programmatic themes:

1) developing academic programs for students,
2) advancing understanding through scholarly publication,
3) encouraging professional practice through conferences and continuing education workshops,
4) assisting the resolution of disputes in religious communities through the reconciliation program, and
5) applying its expertise as mediators and dispute resolution consultants by a commitment to service.

The combination of these initiatives makes Straus an energetic and complex place where inquisitive students have ample opportunities to learn dispute resolution.

Students in the classroom are challenged to address current situations the faculty members are facing in their service projects. Interaction with practitioners at conferences and workshops assist students and faculty in translating theory into practice. Scholarship, classroom teaching, and professional practice are integrated instead of isolated. The result is that the classroom experience invites students to explore the real challenges of practicing dispute resolution. If your goal is a professional dispute resolution practice, the programs at the Straus Institute have been designed for you.

PETER ROBINOWICH
Managing Director and Professor of Law
About the Straus Institute

THE STRAUS INSTITUTE FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION at Pepperdine University School of Law is one of the world’s leading educational programs in the field of dispute resolution. Straus offers two tracks of training; professional training programs and academic programs in dispute resolution including the certificate in dispute resolution, the master of dispute resolution (MDR), the master of laws (LLM) programs.

Repeatedly recognized as the foremost academic center of its kind, the institute brings together an unparalleled full-time teaching and research faculty with scholars and practitioners from throughout the U.S., Canada, Latin America, Asia, and Europe. Its broad and deep curricular offerings serve emerging lawyers, as well as experienced mid-career professionals, business persons, and religious and community leaders. In the more than 29 years since its founding, the Straus Institute has established itself as a standard of excellence in preparing effective negotiators, peacemakers, and problem solvers, as well as becoming a driving force for improving the culture of conflict in America.

THE STRAUS LLM FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION is a unique experience for everyone who is interested in arbitration and mediation. As a German attorney at a major international law firm, I have been able to see international commercial arbitration develop into a very important tool for resolving disputes. My training at Pepperdine has been very helpful as I represent clients in arbitrations around the world. LLM students not only study the various processes, but can learn the cultural aspects of international conflict resolution and best practices in the field.

ANKE MEIER (LLM ’08)
Partner and Head of Arbitration at a Major International Law Firm

Reputation

PEPPERDINE HAS LONG BEEN CONSIDERED THE PREMIER PROGRAM IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION.

FOR OVER 29 YEARS the Straus Institute has built a program that has been recognized for excellence throughout the world and in a variety of sectors.

THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

IN THE ANNUAL U.S. News & World Report rankings, faculty across the nation rate Pepperdine as the number one dispute resolution program for an unprecedented 11 consecutive years.

THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMUNITY

IN ADDITION TO THE U.S. News & World Report rankings, the Straus Institute has also been recognized by the Association for Conflict Resolution’s Peacemaker Award (2011), the California Dispute Resolution Council’s Outstanding Contribution to the Profession of ADR Neutrals Award (2006), the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ADR in Education Award (2006), and the International Academy of Mediators’ Excellence in Education Award (2004).

The Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution is the NUMBER ONE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAM IN THE COUNTRY according to U.S. News & World Report for over a decade.
Location
THE STRAUS INSTITUTE for Dispute Resolution is part of Pepperdine University School of Law, located in Malibu, California. While the magnificent vistas provide a beautiful setting for study and contemplation, Pepperdine is only 12 miles from the energy and night life of Santa Monica and 25 miles from downtown Los Angeles.

AAA Library and Information Center Collection
FOUNDED IN 1954, the American Arbitration Association’s Library and Information Center Collection has long been considered the world’s largest collection of materials on conflict resolution. Relocated to Pepperdine in 2007, the AAA library reflects Pepperdine’s commitment to research and scholarship in the field.

FLEXIBLE COURSE FORMATS
Pick a path that meets your busy schedule. Pursue the program on a part-time or full-time basis.

COURSES AVAILABLE IN:
- One week
- Two weekends
- Once a week for 15 weeks
- 12-day international study tours

HAVING ATTENDED SEMINARS AT STRAUS, I realized that I wanted more of what the academic program had to offer. The mid-career decision to embark on the LLM program was not an easy one with a thriving law practice two thousand miles away, but the journey was immeasurably rewarding and fulfilling. The class schedules met my needs, and the instructors and fellow students were the best. Not only did the Straus program increase my professional skills as a dispute resolution professional it opened my mind to areas of the profession which I had never thought possible.

Mark Travis (LLM ’07)
Attorney/Mediator, Cookeville, Tennessee

Diverse Student Body
THE LEVEL OF EDUCATION rises with sophisticated and committed students ranging from retired judges to young professionals just beginning their careers. Not only can professors teach at a higher level, but student discussion and comprehension can be more complex. Students from a variety of professions including law, business, human resources, counseling, law enforcement, and other areas, all come to Pepperdine to learn the skills to manage conflict.

AS AN ATTORNEY FROM CHINA, I can say that the field of dispute resolution is still growing in my country. Before attending Pepperdine, I knew little about arbitration, mediation, and dispute resolution. At Pepperdine, professors don’t just focus on the theory but share real and interesting stories of resolving disputes, issuing arbitral awards, convening mediations, and facilitating negotiation impasses. Through the program I not only got a deeper understanding of dispute resolution theory, but was able to gain real experience. This is crucial for a foreigner, since I can apply the skills I learned at Pepperdine in my practice in China. Pepperdine’s reputation internationally gives me additional credibility in the field and I am proud to be a member of the Straus family.

Jie Xu (LLM ’10)
Case Manager, Beijing Arbitration Commission, China
LLM Program Options

THE LLM is a 26-unit program available on a part-time or full-time basis. This is an advanced law degree and will require an ABA-accredited JD degree or for international candidates the first degree in law required for law practice or law teaching in the country in which law studies were pursued. Pepperdine attracts domestic and international students looking to receive specialized training in dispute resolution, as well as U.S. law training for international students.

PEPPERDINE OFFERS THE FOLLOWING LLM PROGRAM OPTIONS:

- LLM in International Commercial Arbitration (ICA)
- LLM in International Commercial Law and Arbitration (ICA)
- LLM in International Commercial Law and Dispute Resolution (ICLDR)
- LLM in US Law and Dispute Resolution
- LLM in Dispute Resolution with Concentrations Available in Mediation, Arbitration or Litigation

Pepperdine/Heidelberg Collaborative

In collaboration with Heidelberg Law School students can transfer 8 units of coursework in Tennessee A pilot program allowing students to take

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- LLM in International Commercial Arbitration (ICA)
- LLM in International Commercial Law and Arbitration (ICA)
- LLM in International Commercial Law and Dispute Resolution (ICLDR)
- LLM in US Law and Dispute Resolution
- LLM in Dispute Resolution with Concentrations Available in Mediation, Arbitration or Litigation

Nashville Program

Students from the Eastern US can take 12 units of coursework in Tennessee in two-weekend intensive formats and complete their coursework in Malibu in just one semester, or spread it out over several years in one-week or two-weekend intensive courses

WHEN I DECIDED TO FOCUS my postgraduate studies on international arbitration, there was simply no doubt that the only option for me was Strauss. So far, it’s the best decision I’ve made for my career. Not only does it have an excellent program that provides unparalleled exposure to the theory and practice of international dispute resolution, its faculty and staff is among the finest in the field and is recognized by their solid backgrounds in international law and practice.

Víctor M. Ruiz (LLM ’08)
Counsel and Arbitrator, Mexico City, Mexico
(former counsel at the ICC International Court of Arbitration in Paris, France)

International students can study U.S. law and qualify to sit for the California or New York Bar Exams.

Students in the ICLA Concentration choose to use their elective courses to take business law classes and will require extra coursework to meet the requirements of the bar exam.

Pepperdine LLM students can apply to the JD program as transfer students without taking the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). The applicant’s grades and relative difficulty of course work pursued in Pepperdine’s LLM will be very important factors. Successful applicants will usually have good grades in at least four doctrinal law courses tested on the bar exam.

If the applicant is accepted into the JD program, he or she may transfer the credits from law classes taken toward completion of the LLM degree. The student must then complete the first-year curriculum in his or her second year at Pepperdine. In the third year, enough advanced courses must be completed in order to satisfy the JD graduation requirement. Students transferring from the LLM to the JD will be awarded the JD degree upon completion of the JD requirements and will not be awarded an LLM degree. Only students currently enrolled in Pepperdine’s LLM program may apply.

Master of Dispute Resolution

THE MASTER OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION (MDR) is a 32-unit program available to those with a minimum of a bachelor’s degree.

The MDR program attracts law and non-law professionals across the nation looking for specialized training in conflict management. These include professionals in human resources, business, consulting, the medical field, counseling, international diplomacy, and other areas.

THE STRAUSS INSTITUTE PROVIDES students with cutting-edge knowledge and tools necessary for success as a dispute resolution practitioner and in any other profession that requires an ability to understand and resolve conflict. As an ombudsman at the World Bank, I am continually drawing upon the education, inspiration, and techniques I received over 12 years ago as an MDR student. It has been an honor to return as part of the faculty preparing students for this exciting field.

David Talbot (MDR ’04)
Ombudsman, World Bank

THE LLM/JD TRANSFER PROGRAM

Pepperdine LLM students can apply to the JD program as transfer students without taking the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). The applicant’s grades and relative difficulty of course work pursued in Pepperdine’s LLM will be very important factors. Successful applicants will usually have good grades in at least four doctrinal law courses tested on the bar exam.

If the applicant is accepted into the JD program, he or she may transfer the credits from law classes taken toward completion of the LLM degree. The student must then complete the first-year curriculum in his or her second year at Pepperdine. In the third year, enough advanced courses must be completed in order to satisfy the JD graduation requirement. Students transferring from the LLM to the JD will be awarded the JD degree upon completion of the JD requirements and will not be awarded an LLM degree. Only students currently enrolled in Pepperdine’s LLM program may apply.

Joint Programs Available

Juris Doctor/Master of Dispute Resolution
Master of Public Policy/Master of Dispute Resolution
Master of Business Administration/Master in Dispute Resolution

Earning my Master of Dispute Resolution from the Strauss Institute has provided me invaluable credibility and set me apart from others in a highly competitive field. As a Navy Judge Advocate, I am thrust into demanding situations all over the globe. Whether I'm defusing rule of law issues in West Africa or negotiating a plea bargain at trial, the skills obtained from Strauss help me get to the heart of a problem quickly and derive creative solutions to complete the mission.

Garrett Snow (JD ’06, MDR ’06)
Judge Advocate, U.S. Navy
THE CERTIFICATE IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION is a 14-unit program available to those looking at receiving foundational training in dispute resolution topics. This program is available as a stand-alone program, as well as a joint program with a number of Pepperdine’s graduate programs.

DURING THE SUMMER Pepperdine offers a four-week U.S. Law and Legal Writing Seminar (Summer Seminar) for international attorneys and judges. This four-week program is designed to strengthen legal speaking, listening, reading, and writing abilities for non-native speakers. The Summer Seminar will cover topics in legal research and writing, and U.S. legal vocabulary and concepts, as well as advanced reading, writing, and grammar. The program will also include a number of professional site visits including the Los Angeles Superior Court, JAMS, and meetings with lawyers specializing in international law practice, in addition to cultural visits which have included the Hollywood Bowl, a Dodgers game, and other cultural events in Los Angeles.

THE SUMMER SEMINAR was extremely helpful in preparing for my LLM studies, especially the legal writing class. My classmates were from all over the world, and it was interesting to share about our experiences and learn from each other. It was a great chance to learn about different cultures from all over the world and the faculty at the Straus Institute is extremely friendly, helpful, and care a lot for their students. I think the most valuable part is the extracurricular activities that included visiting the Center for Conflict Resolution (CCR) and JAMS. This gave us the opportunity to experience the LA legal environment and even meet some legal professionals in person. I have learned so much in this program.

Yingxin (Yvette) Wen, (LLM ‘14)
Academic Courses in Dispute Resolution

LLM IN INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION (ICA) (26 UNITS)
- Mediation Theory and Practice
- Negotiation Theory and Practice
- International Commercial Arbitration Theory and Doctrine
- International Commercial Arbitration Procedure and Practice
- Capstone Mock Arbitration
- Introduction to U.S. Law (international attorneys only)
- Legal Research and Writing I**

Two of the Following Three Courses:
- International Commercial Arbitration and the National Courts
- International Investment Disputes
- Ethical Considerations in International Arbitration

4 – 6 Elective Course Options

LLM IN INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL LAW AND ARBITRATION (ICLA) (26 UNITS)
- International Commercial Arbitration Theory and Doctrine
- International Commercial Arbitration Procedure and Practice
- Negotiation Theory and Practice
- Mediation Theory and Practice
- Legal Research and Writing

See 16 Units of Doctrinal Course Requirements

LLM IN INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL LAW AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION (26 UNITS)
- International Commercial Arbitration Theory and Doctrine
- International Commercial Arbitration Procedure and Practice
- Negotiation Theory and Practice
- Mediation Theory and Practice
- Legal Research and Writing I**

See 12 Units of Doctrinal Course Requirements

LLM IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION (26 UNITS)
- Mediation Theory and Practice
- Negotiation Theory and Practice
- Arbitration Course*
- Psychology of Conflict Communication
- Mediation Clinic
- Legal Research and Writing I**

18 units of doctrinal law courses

MASTER OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION (32 UNITS)
- Mediation Theory and Practice
- Negotiation Theory and Practice
- Arbitration Course*
- Cross-Cultural Conflict and Dispute Resolution
- Psychology of Conflict Communication
- Introduction to U.S. Law (for non-lawyers and non-law students)
- Legal Research and Writing I (for non-lawyers and non-law students)
- Mediation Clinic

6 Elective Course Options
2 Externships

CERTIFICATE IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION (14 UNITS)
- Mediation Theory and Practice
- Negotiation Theory and Practice
- Arbitration Course*
- 4 Elective Course Options

Elective Course Options for LLM Masters in Dispute Resolution, and Certificate in Dispute Resolution

FOUNDATIONAL COURSES
- Arbitration Law*
- Arbitration Practice and Advocacy*
- Introduction to U.S. Law
- Mediation Theory and Practice
- Negotiation Theory and Practice

INTERNATIONAL COURSES
- Current Issues in International Dispute Resolution:
  - London/Geneva
  - Hong Kong/Beijing
- Ethical Considerations in International Arbitration
- International Commercial Arbitration and the National Courts*
- International Commercial Arbitration Procedure and Practice*
- International Commercial Arbitration Theory and Doctrine*
- International Investment Disputes
- International Litigation

COMMUNICATION SKILLS COURSES
- Apology, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation
- Cross Cultural Conflict and Dispute Resolution
- Interpreting, Counseling, and Planning
- Psychology of Conflict Communication

LITIGATION SKILLS COURSES
- Advanced Mediation
- Appellate Advocacy
- Legal Research and Writing Journal
- Honors Mediation Advocacy
- Honors Negotiation Advocacy
- Honors Trial Practice
- Lawyering Process
- Trial Practice
- Trial Preparation and Settlement

Additional commercial law classes:
- Contracts
- Corporations
- Accounting and Finance for Lawyers
- Administrative Law
- Antitrust
- Business Planning
- Business Reorganization in Bankruptcy
- Conflict of Laws
- Creditors’ Rights and Bankruptcy
- Federal Income Taxation
- Intellectual Property Survey
- International Litigation
- International Tax
- Mergers and Acquisitions

CLINICAL COURSES
- Employment Law Mediation Clinic
- Investor Advocacy Clinic
- Mediation Clinic
- Special Education Advocacy Clinic

SPECIALIZED COURSE TOPICS
- Advanced Decision Analysis
- Advanced Mediation Seminar
- Dispute Resolution and Religion
- Dispute Resolution and Technology
- Dispute Resolution in Education
- Dispute Resolution Systems Design
- Divorce and Family Mediation
- Doctrinal law class (with advisor approval)
- Employment Disputes
- Environmental and Public Policy Dispute Resolution
- Ethical Practices in Dispute Resolution
- Faith-Based Diplomacy and International Peacemaking
- Health Care Dispute Resolution
- International Sports Law and Dispute Resolution
- Intellectual Property
- Labor Disputes
- Managing Litigation and Conflict for Corporations and Organizations
- Mass Torts
- Ombuds
- Restorative Justice
- Substantive law class (with advisor approval)
  *Meets the arbitration requirement
Students Competing in a Mock Arbitration Competition

Translating Theory into Practice
Clinical Opportunities

MEDIATION CLINIC

STRAUS’ GOALS TO TEACH STUDENTS to do dispute resolution is fulfilled by student participation in the dispute resolution clinic and externships. The Mediation Clinic requires students to mediate at least 20 live-client disputes. By the end of the experience, students know they can mediate.

INVESTOR ADVOCACY CLINIC

ESTABLISHED IN FALL 2010, through a grant funded by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), students have the opportunity to handle arbitrations and mediations before FINRA on behalf of California investors. Cases considered by the clinic are California investors who have claims less than $100,000, household incomes less than $100,000, and arbitral disputes with their securities brokers and/or brokerage firms.

EMPLOYMENT LAW MEDIATION CLINIC

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW has partnered with the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) to give students the opportunity to work with DFEH senior attorney-mediators to prepare cases for mediation under the Fair Employment and Housing Act. DFEH is California’s civil rights agency whose mission is to protect the people of California from unlawful discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations, and from hate violence.

Pepperdine Mediation Clinic students mediate or co-mediate 800 cases for the citizens of Los Angeles County each year.

Past Externship Opportunities

THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAMS AT PEPPERDINE focus on the balance of theory and practice. Once students have grasped the theoretical components in the classroom, they can gain practical experience and network with professionals in the field by completing an externship. Students have worked with the following organizations:

- Abilene Christian University
- ADR Center in Ohio
- American Arbitration Association
- Amgen
- Arbitration Mediation Conciliation Center
- Arizona State University
- Arrowhead Regional Medical Center
- Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center
- Beijing Arbitration Commission, China
- California Academy of Mediation Professionals
- California Institute of Technology, Ombuds Office
- California Lawyers for the Arts
- California National Guard JAG
- CEDR, London
- Center for Civic Mediation
- Center for Conflict Resolution
- Centelina Youth Services
- Chorda Conflict Management
- City of Burbank
- City of Glendale
- Clark County Neighborhood Justice Center
- Department of Consumer Affairs
- Dependency Court
- Dow-Corning Trust - Settlement Facility
- EEOC in Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and Phoenix
- Excel Sports Management
- Fair Housing Council of Orange County
- Federal District Court of Washington, D.C.
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- FINRA
- First Mediation
- Florida State Judge
- FOX Broadcasting Company
- Free Burma Rangers, Thailand
- Glazer in Israel
- Good News Associates
- Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre
- ICANN
- Idaho Power
- Independent Film and Television Alliance
- Indiana Education Employment Board
- Internal Revenue Service
- International Chamber of Commerce, Paris, France
- International Centre for Dispute Resolution
- International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution–CPR
- IVAMS
- JAMS
- Judicial Council of California
- Kaiser Permanente, Ombuds Office
- Legal Aid Clinic, Trinidad
- Los Angeles World Airports Ombuds Office
- Los Angeles County Bar Association
- Los Angeles City Attorney’s Office, Dispute Resolution Program
- Los Angeles Superior Court
- Los Angeles Unified School District
- Macedonia Outreach
- Mercury Insurance
- Ministry of Justice, Rwanda
- MTV Network
- Office of the President of the U.S., Washington, D.C.
- Orange County Human Relations Council
- Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission
- Princess Cruises
- Ruckelshaus Center
- Salans, Paris, France
- Supreme Court, Uganda
- Southwest Airlines
- The Carter Center
- The Rosenthal Group
- UC Irvine, Ombuds Office
- UC Los Angeles, Ombuds Office
- United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland
- U.S. Air Force
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court
- U.S. Department of Justice, Community Relations Service
- U.S. Embassy, Brussels, Belgium
- U.S. Office of Special Counsel
- U.S. Postal Service, ADR Redress Program
- Utah Dispute Resolution
- Ventura Center for Dispute Settlement
- Ventura Public Defender’s Office
- Western Justice Center Foundation
- Western Law Center for Disability Rights
Entertainment, Media, and Sports Dispute Resolution Project

IN JULY 2012 the Straus Institute announced an innovative new program, the Entertainment, Media, and Sports Dispute Resolution Project (EMS-Straus). Led by faculty director Maureen Weston, EMS-Straus provides a center for industry expert conversations, conferences, domestic and international off-campus programs, student competitions, interdisciplinary course work, and externships in the entertainment field.

Undergraduate Conflict Management Program

IN 2004 THE STRAUS INSTITUTE partnered with Seaver College to offer a certificate in conflict management. Available to current Pepperdine undergraduate students, this program provides students from a variety of majors to receive specialized training in conflict management topics including mediation, negotiation, arbitration, and cross-cultural negotiation.

Admission Requirements

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis with applicants encouraged to submit their materials four months in advance with the following time frames.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION on our academic programs, please visit STRAUS.PEPPERDINE.EDU or e-mail dracademics@pepperdine.edu.

STRAUS INSTITUTE SCHOLARSHIPS

All students are considered for scholarships at the point of application.

Applicants for the Master of Law (LLM) programs have the option to apply for corporate sponsored scholarships. Some of these scholarships have been sponsored by the Beijing Arbitration Commission, JAMS, and the Seegmiller Law Firm. Please check our website for available scholarships.
Training Programs and Conferences

THE STRAUS INSTITUTE OFFERS a variety of training programs ranging from three-day conferences to six-day training programs for judges, attorneys, and non-law professionals.

In addition to our regularly scheduled conferences and training programs, the Straus Institute regularly sponsors special conferences which have included:

- MANAGING CONFLICT 4.0: A New Wave of Opportunities for Businesses Around the Globe (Co-sponsored by Pepperdine Dispute Resolution Journal and KPMG Law Germany) November 9-10, 2015
- YOUNG ARBITRATORS FORUM (International Arbitration: Procedure, Ethics And Neutrality) Hosted by Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution March 5, 2015
- DISPUTE RESOLUTION IN THE KOREAN COMMUNITY (Co-sponsored by Pepperdine Dispute Resolution Journal) March 6, 2015
- WOMEN IN HOLLYWOOD: 100 Years of Negotiating the System (Cosponsored by Center for Entertainment, Media, and Culture) November 15-16, 2013
- FORGIVENESS RECONCILIATION AND HEALING: Lessons from South Africa (March 21, 2013)
- RESCUING RELATIONSHIPS: Apology, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation (Co-sponsored by Pepperdine Dispute Resolution Law Journal) November 2, 2012
- A CONVERSATION WITH KEN FEINBERG November 14, 2011

MEDIATING THE LITIGATED CASE

A SOPHISTICATED SIX-DAY PROGRAM for experienced litigators, in-house counsel, and other practitioners is our most comprehensive mediation training program. Lawyers and established professionals can spend a full week or two three-day sessions learning basic mediation and negotiation skills. Pepperdine has hosted judges from Thailand and has presented this program in China, Malaysia, Brazil, Uganda, and the Netherlands.

Malibu: One week in early August
West Los Angeles and Irvine: Two three-day sessions in January/February
Washington, DC: One week in September

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS PROGRAMS

FOR OVER 28 YEARS, dispute resolution professionals from around the world gather for the annual three-day Summer Professional Skills Program in Malibu. These programs provide an opportunity for novice practitioners to learn basic mediation and negotiation skills, as well as experienced mediators and arbitrators to participate in advanced or specialized courses such as complex construction mediation, family law mediation, or elder care mediation.

Malibu: Mid-June
Maryland: Mid-March
Nashville: End-October

Each year, the Malibu Professional Skills Program attracts more than 250 participants from around the world.