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. Over 25 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 ROBINSON
Managing Director and Professor of Law
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 LLM in dispute resolution, and our newest offering, the LLM in dispute resolution with a concentration in international commercial arbitration.

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 27 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 major international law firm
The Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution is the NUMBER ONE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAM IN THE COUNTRY according to U.S. News & World Report for ten consecutive years.

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

FOR OVER 27 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 ten 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).
AAA Library and Information Center Collection

**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 nightlife 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.
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 in Dispute Resolution

THE LLM IN DISPUTE Resolution is a 28-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 US law training for international students. *The LLM in Dispute Resolution offers two tracks of learning:*

**LLM IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION**
This is a general track that can be pursued on a part-time or full-time basis and starts students in the fall, spring and summer semesters. This is a practice-based program requiring theory courses, clinics, and externship experiences. Concentrations are available in mediation, arbitration, or litigation and can be declared towards the end of the program.

**LLM IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION WITH A CONCENTRATION IN INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION**
This is a specialized track in international commercial arbitration available on a full-time basis with courses starting during the fall semester. This is a practice-based program requiring theory courses and a mock arbitration experience. This concentration needs to be declared at the start of the program since the course requirements differ from the general program.

**EARNING AN LLM FROM STRAUS**
was the best investment of time and money I’ve ever made. In addition to providing me with a way to distinguish myself from the hundreds of other lawyers in Southern California, it has opened doors and created opportunities for me that I did not know existed when I started my studies. The end result is that you exit the program as a better counselor of law. The LLM program is an academic program that challenges you to learn new skills which are different from, but complementary to, the legal reasoning and analysis skills learned in law school.

*Rebecca Callahan (LLM ’07)*
Attorney, Mediator, and Arbitrator

**WHEN I DECIDED TO FOCUS** my postgraduate studies on international arbitration, there was simply no doubt that the only option for me was Straus. 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.

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

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*International Students can Study US Law and Qualify to Sit for the California or New York Bar Exam.*
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 substantive 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 STRAUS 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 ’98)
Ombudsman, World Bank

EARNING MY MASTER OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION from the Straus 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 diffusing rule of law issues in West Africa or negotiating a plea bargain at trial, the skills obtained from Straus 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

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
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.

**JOINT DEGREES AND PROGRAMS**

- Juris Doctor/Certificate in Dispute Resolution
- Master of Business Administration/Concentration in Dispute Resolution
- Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology – Marriage and Family Therapy/Certificate in Dispute Resolution
- Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership/Certificate in Dispute Resolution
- Master of Science in Management and Leadership/Certificate in Dispute Resolution

**THE OPPORTUNITY TO EARN A CERTIFICATE** in dispute resolution from the number one-ranked Straus Institute along with my MBA was key in my decision to attend Pepperdine. I recently received an offer from a Fortune 10 company. The hiring manager stated that one of the key reasons I was extended an offer was due to the dispute resolution skills and the day-to-day applicability they have when managing employees.

*MICHAEL BEAUDOIN (MBA ’11, Cert. ’11)*

**THE STRAUS INSTITUTE FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION** provided me with the unique opportunity to enhance my master’s degree in psychology by participating in Straus’ certificate in dispute resolution program. In addition to learning effective mediation strategies, the courses helped me gain a better understanding about the legal system, comprehend how law ties into various psychological theories, and consider a career in family mediation.

*Andrea Lane (MA ’08, Cert. ’08)*
DURING THE SUMMER Pepperdine offers a four-week Legal English Gateway Program (Gateway) 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 Gateway program 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 LEGAL ENGLISH GATEWAY program 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 Candidate
Academic Courses in Dispute Resolution

**LLM IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION**
*(28 UNITS)*

- Mediation Theory and Practice
- Negotiation Theory and Practice
- Arbitration course (*eligible courses below)
- Psychology of Conflict
- Communication and Conflict
- Mediation Clinic
- 5–6 Elective courses
- 1 Externship and LLM Independent Study Project 
or Thesis Project

**LLM IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION**
*with a Concentration in International Commercial Arbitration (28 units)*

- Mediation Theory and Practice
- Negotiation Theory and Practice
- International Commercial Arbitration Theory and Doctrine
- International Commercial Arbitration Procedure and Practice
- International Commercial Arbitration and the National Courts
- International Investment Disputes
- Ethical Considerations in International Arbitration
- Capstone Mock Arbitration
- Introduction to U.S. Law (International attorneys only)
- 5 Elective Courses

*Note- International students can use their elective credits to study U.S. law and qualify to sit for the California or New York Bar Exam.*

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**Elective Course Options**

**FOUNDATIONAL COURSES**

- 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 COURSES**

- International Commercial Arbitration Theory and Doctrine*
- International Investment Disputes
- International Litigation

**COMMUNICATION SKILLS COURSES**

- Apology, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation
- Communication and Conflict
- Cross-Cultural Conflict and Dispute Resolution
- Interviewing, Counseling, and Planning
- Psychology of Conflict

**LITIGATION SKILLS COURSES**

- Advanced Trial Practice
- Appellate Advocacy
- Dispute Resolution Law Journal
- Honors Appellate Advocacy
- Honors Mediation Advocacy
- Honors Negotiation Advocacy
- Honors Trial Practice
- Lawyering Process
- Trial Practice
- Trial Preparation and Settlement
**MASTER OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION**  
(32 UNITS)

- Mediation Theory and Practice  
- Negotiation Theory and Practice  
- Arbitration course (*eligible courses below)  
- Cross-Cultural Conflict and Dispute Resolution  
- Psychology of Conflict  
- Communication and Conflict  
- Introduction to U.S. Law  
  (non-lawyers and non-law students only)  
- Mediation Clinic  
- 5–6 Elective Courses  

**CERTIFICATE IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION**  
(14 UNITS)

- Mediation Theory and Practice  
- Negotiation Theory and Practice  
- Arbitration course (*eligible courses below)  
- 4 Elective Courses

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### CLINICAL COURSES

- Employment Law Mediation Clinic  
- Investor Advocacy Clinic  
- Juvenile Justice Practicum  
- Mediation Clinic  
- Special Education Advocacy Clinic

### ADVANCED TOPICS COURSES

- Advanced Mediation Seminar  
- Arbitration Law*  
- Arbitration Law in the Securities Industry**  
- Ethical Practices in Dispute Resolution

### SPECIALIZED COURSE TOPICS

- Advanced Decision Analysis  
- Dispute Resolution and Religion  
- Dispute Resolution and Technology  
- Dispute Resolution in Education  
- Dispute Resolution Systems Design  
- Divorce and Family Mediation  
- Employment Disputes  
- Entertainment Industry Disputes  
- Environmental and Public Policy 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

* meets the arbitration requirement
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 use their electives to gain practical experience and network with professionals in the field. 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
Centinela 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
Macedonian 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 County Human Relations Council
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.

Seaver 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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<td>End of March</td>
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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.

Students in the LLM in Dispute Resolution or the Concentration in International Commercial Arbitration 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.
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.
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 27 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

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

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

WOMEN IN HOLLYWOOD: 100 Years of Negotiating the System
Cosponsored by Center for Entertainment, Media, and Culture
November 15–16, 2013

DOPING AND THE CULTURE OF SPORT: Law, Science, Money, and Ethics
Sponsored by: Professor Arne Ljungqvist, Anti-Doping Foundation
The Foundation for Global Sports Development
Sheppard Mullin LLP
October 22, 2013

FORGIVENESS RECONCILIATION AND HEALING: Lessons from South Africa
March 21, 2013

RESCUING RELATIONSHIPS: Apology, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation
Cosponsored by Pepperdine Dispute Resolution Law Journal
November 2, 2012

A CONVERSATION WITH KEN FEINBERG
November 14, 2011