

## Symposium Features Experts on Islamic Finance Law

The Wisconsin International Law Journal (WILJ), one of the Law School's student-run journals, hosted its annual Symposium on Friday, March 2, 2007, at the Law School. This year's topic was "Islamic Law in a Globalized World: Implications for Contemporary Finance Law."

The Symposium brought together an extraordinary combination of practitioners and academics to explore this important and fast-growing sector of the capital markets. The sophisticated conference agenda and knowledgeable presenters provided an impressive framework for the event.

The goal of the Symposium was to call attention to the significant role Islamic law, particularly Islamic finance law, has come to play in the United States. Islamic law has

become an intense area of interest and debate in recent years, and it has profound implications for the ways in which both domestic and international business transactions are conducted. The event focused on Islamic law generally as well as on various details of Islamic finance law.

According to Professor Asifa Quraishi, "The Symposium provided a sophisticated critique of a very popular topic in the world of Islamic law, not to mention the field of law and finance generally. One of the participants commented to me that this was a unique event in the field because of its decidedly academic, rather than commercial, focus and that it encouraged a high level of analysis and debate."

The well-attended event was open to the legal community and to all University of Wisconsin

students and faculty. The event was organized by WILJ students Emily Thompson, Editor in Chief, and Soniya Yunus, Symposium Editor. It was co-sponsored by the Global Legal Studies Center, the Lubar Institute for the Study of the Abrahamic Religions (LISAR), the Center for World Affairs and the Global Economy (WAGE), the East Asian Legal Studies Center, the Middle East Studies Program, the Global Studies Program, Westlaw, Middle Eastern Law Students Association, Muslim Students Association, Associated Students of Madison (ASM), and the Law School's Institute for Legal Studies.

The Symposium issue of the *Wisconsin International Law Journal* will be published this fall and will contain articles written by the presenters.

### Student to Clerk on High Court of India

Neil G. Bjorkman, a third-year University of Wisconsin Law School student who has been researching Indian law with Professor Marc Galanter, has been selected as a law clerk for Justice Dalveer Bhandari of the Supreme Court of India, the country's highest court. Bjorkman has accepted a 12-month clerkship with Justice Bhandari.

Professor Galanter has played an important role in preparing Bjorkman for his clerkship and connecting him with Bhandari, whom Galanter taught in a summer school course for Indian graduate students.



Eric Huston 2L receives this year's UW Law School Legal Research & Writing Best Brief Award from Dean Ken Davis after a selection process that included review of all the submitted briefs by leading Wisconsin practitioners and UW Law School professors. At right is Huston's legal writing instructor, Margaret Baumgartner '84.